7Seeds
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7SEEDS

25

セブンシーズ

Yumi Tamura

田村由美

TEAM SUMMER B
MOZU

HE'S THE ORIGINATOR OF "PROJECT SEVEN SEEDS," AND HAS BEEN OBSERVING THE MOVEMENTS OF ALL THE TEAMS.

TEAM AUTUMN
KURUMI SHIKANO

SOFT-HEARTED GIRL WHO'S EXPECTING A CHILD FATHERED BY HER TEAMMATE RYUSEI.

TEAM SUMMER B
NATSU IWASHIMIZU

A TIMID AND WELL-MANNERED GIRL. SHE'S AFRAID OF VOICING HER OWN OPINIONS.

TEAM SPRING
HANA SUGURONO

YOUNG WOMAN WHO'S WELL VERSED IN OUTDOOR SURVIVAL. SHE'S THE GIRLFRIEND OF ARASHI FROM TEAM SUMMER B.

TEAM SUMMER A
NIJIKO

EXPERT ON CONSTRUCTION WORK. SHE'S NOTICED THAT THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE ISLAND AND HAS STARTED EXPLORING IT.

TEAM SUMMER A
GENGORO

HE KNOWS WELL ABOUT THE BREEDING AND TREATMENT OF ANIMALS. HE'S WARMHEARTED, AND HAS AN UNTIRING SPIRIT FOR RESEARCH.

TEAM SUMMER A
ANGO
RYO

TEAM SPRING
HIBARI NIIGUSA

SUCCESSOR OF THE HEAD FAMILY OF A LINEAGE OF SPIRITUALISTIC MEDIUMS. SHE'S A RELATIVE OF HOTARU'S.

TER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARA

flowers:
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7 SEEDS (セブン シーズ) 22

ORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY

A HUGE METEORITE HAS COLLIDED WITH THE EARTH, AND THE HUMAN RACE WAS ELIMINATED. THE GOVERNMENT, WHO HAD FORESEEN THIS WORST CASE SCENARIO, TOOK A CERTAIN COUNTERMEASURE: PROJECT SEVEN SEEDS, FOR WHICH S TEAMS OF SEVEN TALENTED AND CAREFULLY SELECTED BOYS AND GIRLS WERE BUILT AND PUT INTO COLD SLEEP TO SECURE THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE HUMAN RACE.

WHEN THE YOUNG PEOPLE AWOKE IN A WORLD IN THE FUTURE, THEY WERE EXPOSED TO A SEVERE ENVIRONMENT. AS THEY STRUGGLED FOR SURVIVAL, THEY WENT THROUGH PARTINGS FROM AND ENCOUNTERS WITH THEIR FRIENDS.

HANA, WHO'D BEEN SWEPT AWAY IN A RAPID STREAM AND MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVED, MET FUJIKO AND CHISA AGAIN. ARAMAKI AND AYU, WHO'D SET OUT ON A JOURNEY TO SEARCH FOR HANA, ALSO JOINED THE GROUP. WHEN THEY WERE CAUGHT IN A FIRE, A LOT OF THE DOGS WHICH ACCOMPANIED ARAMAKI DIED. WHILE FLEEING, THEY RAN ACROSS TSUNOMATA AND HIBARI. BECAUSE OF HIBARI'S DEMAND AND HANA'S RECOLLECTION, THE SEVEN OF THEM DECIDED TO HEAD FOR SADO ISLAND.
ANGO AND RYO, WHO'D BEEN BANISHED FROM THE COLLECTIVE VILLAGE, JOINED TEAM SUMMER B. EVEN THOUGH THE TWO OF THEM CONSIDERED HANA'S SURVIVAL UNLIKELY, OPTIMISTIC ARASHI AND CREW SET A COURSE FOR SAID VILLAGE TO LEARN NEWS ABOUT HANA.
THE MIXTURE OF TEAMS FLED FROM THE FOREST FIRE. UNDER MOZU'S GUIDANCE, THEY REACHED A MYSTERIOUS ISLAND. BUT IN THE NIGHT, THIRTEEN OF THEM WERE LED OFF BY HALLUCINATIONS AND IMAGINED VOICES, AND THEY VANISHED. NIJIKO, WHO WAS LEFT BEHIND ON HER OWN, STARTED EXPLORING THE ISLAND...

7SEEDS
25

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Ocean Chapter 3
【— What —】

BUT IT'S NOT TOO ROUGH TO CROSS IT ON FOOT.
IT'S VERY HILLY.

I'M EXPLORING THIS MYSTERIOUS ISLAND.
THE CIRCUMFERENCE IS ABOUT SEVEN OR EIGHT KILOMETERS.

IT'S AN ISLAND.
THAT WAS ORIGINALLY POPULATED BY HUMANS.

THE SOIL...
IT STORES WATER PROPERLY.
IS BLACK AND FERTILE.

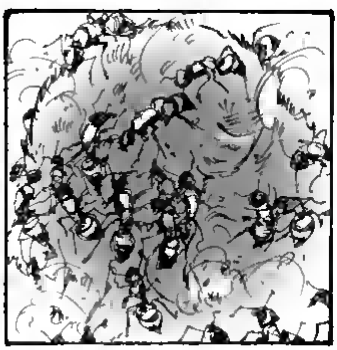
THAT ARE TRACES OF A FORMER CIVILIZATION.

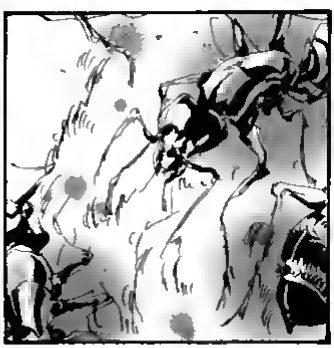
YOU SEE HEAPS OF STONE OR EARTH...
ONCE IN A WHILE,

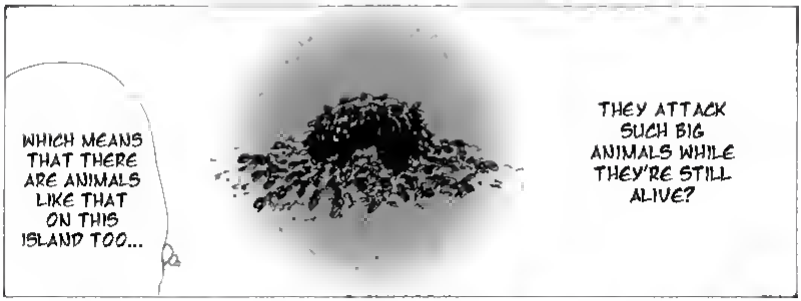
ARE THERE 'HOLES BIG ENOUGH TO PERMIT PEOPLE,
ASIDE FROM THAT ENTRANCE ...?
THOSE MUST BE NESTS OF SOME ANIMALS.
ARE THOSE HOLES EVERY-WHERE.
WHAT STANDS OUT...
OF THE THIRTEEN PEOPLE WHO VANISHED...
NOBODY'S COME OUT.
squeak
grunt
squeak
IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S GOING TO RAIN SOON.
trudge
Should I try to get to the top?
trudge

grunt
squeak
squeak
RUSTLE

ANTS ?!
IT'S THE KIND THAT YOU OFTEN SEE AROUND.






WHICH MEANS THAT THERE ARE ANIMALS LIKE THAT ON THIS ISLAND TOO...
THEY ATTACK SUCH BIG ANIMALS WHILE THEY'RE STILL ALIVE?

Hmm
I SEE.
ARE ENTRANCES TO AN ANT NEST...
THESE HOLES ...

SWAT
SWAT
WHOA!
SWARM
UGH!
RUSTLE
THEY'RE BITING ME!
DASH
THEY'RE BITING.
OW!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

SLASH
hah
hah
hah

IT'D BE DANGEROUS TO STAY IN ONE PLACE.
I wonder if this is edible.
THEY ATTACK HUMANS TOO?
Let go
It looks like the head came off
hah hah
KANAME-SAN,
WHAT DO YOU MEAN THERE ARE NO DANGEROUS CREATURES AROUND?
AREN'T THE ANTS...
ACTIVE DURING A DOWNPOUR EITHER?
SSHH
ON ANY OF THIS?
OR DIDN'T HE RECKON ...
SSH

I lost my head. Nobody saw it, right?
SUB-TERRA-NEAN ANT NESTS...
CAN EXTEND OVER A TERRIBLY WIDE AREA AND THROUGH ALL GROUND LAYERS.
IT'S A BIG SPECIES OF ANTS TO BOOT.
HAS PERHAPS THE INSIDE OF THIS ISLAND ITSELF...
BEEN TURNED INTO AN ANT NEST?

IT'S AN ANT NEST.

IT PROBABLY USED TO BE A PASSAGE-WAY,
BUT IT'S FULL OF HOLES NOW.

THIS ISN'T A CLEAN CORRIDOR OR GRASSLAND EITHER.

AFTER COVERING MY NOSE AND MOUTH,
THE SURROUND-INGS BECAME CLEARER LITTLE BY LITTLE.

NO, HIDING IS POINTLESS, I GUESS.
BECAUSE THEY DON'T NECESSARILY SEE WITH THEIR EYES.

ARE THE ANTS CAUSING THOSE HALLUCI-NATIONS?
I HARDLY THINK SO.
...IT MUST BE SOME-THING ELSE.

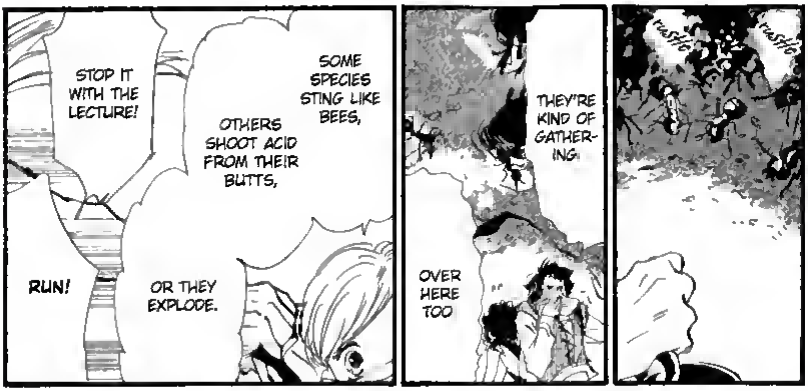
THIS PLACE...
IS AN ANT NEST?

WILL THEY COME AND ATTACK ME?
rustle
rustle
CAN I GO BACK THE WAY I CAME?
NO, I DON'T KNOW WHICH WAY I TOOK ANYMORE.
WHAT'S WITH THIS PLACE?
HUH?
Huh?
IT WAS A NORMAL PASSAGE-WAY UNTIL JUST NOW.
IT'S FULL OF HOLES.

EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T FEEL ANYTHING UNTIL A MOMENT AGO.
I FEEL IT.
THIS IS A HORRIBLE PLACE.
A LOT OF PEOPLE...
DIED OF UNNATURAL CAUSES HERE...
PEOPLE DIED HERE.
No, they died throughout Japan.
WHOA! STOP!
They're creepy
THEY'RE TOO LARGE, AREN'T THEY?
Ugh!
Are those ants?
GIGANTIC ANTS!
WHOA!

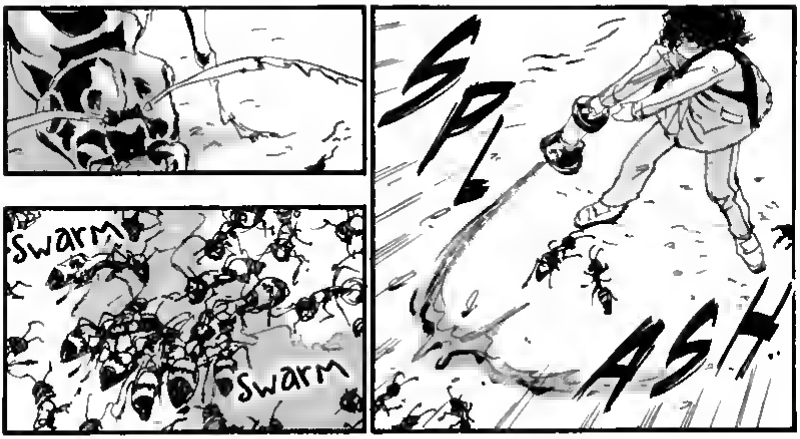
*red-chested carpenter ant

LITTLE SMART-ASS.
OR THEY GROW MUSH-ROOMS.
OTHERS ARE PARASITES ON OTHER ANTS,
SOME OF THEM LIVE IN SYMBIOSIS WITH PLANTS.
BECAUSE THEY EAT ANIMALS OR FRESH CARRION,
THERE ARE MANY SPECIES OF ANTS.
rustle
rustle


STOP IT WITH THE LECTURE!
RUN!
OR THEY EXPLODE.
OTHERS SHOOT ACID FROM THEIR BUTTS,
SOME SPECIES STING LIKE BEES,
OVER HERE TOO
THEY'RE KIND OF GATHER-ING.
rustle
rustle

CRU
NCH
ANY-WHERE!
WHERE THERE ARE NO ANTS!
RUN? WHERE TO?

Eek!
IT'S HOPELESS! THEY'RE COMING FROM EVERYWHERE!
Whoa!
Is this not a hallucination?!
FROM BELOW TOO
Swarm
I TOLD YOU NOT TO TREAD ON THEM!
stomp
stomp
I CAN'T RUN WITHOUT STEPPING ON THEM!
stomp
Say,
SHOULDN'T WE ..
LIKE WHEN YOU COME ACROSS A BEAR?
THROW SOMETHING AS BAIT?
YOU'RE RIGHT!


SPLASH
Swarm
Swarm

NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
We mustn't waste our oil though.
It seems so. That's what I learned
NOT SUGAR?
rustle rustle
OIL?!
IS OIL THEIR FAVOURITE FOOD?!

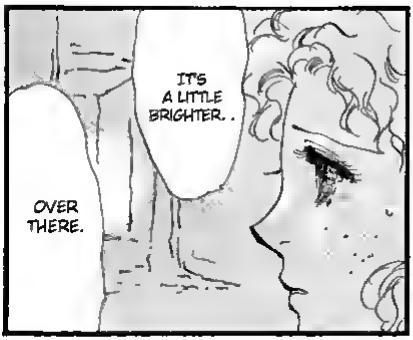
KURUMI
I WONDER IF KURUMI IS OKAY.

WHY
TO THIS ISLAND SO CARELESSLY?
DID WE COME...

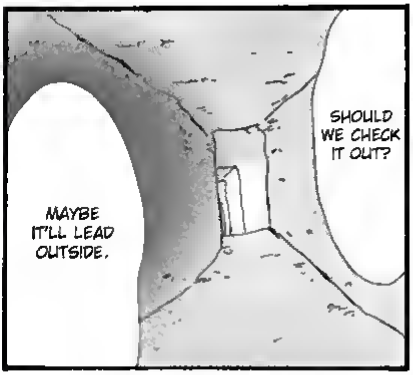
MOMOTA-KUN, YOU'RE AMAZING
Anyway where should we go?
TEE HEE.

THOSE ANTS SURE ARE HUGE,
BUT THE SIZE OF THE HOLES IN THIS AREA...
IS OUT OF ALL PROPOR-TION.

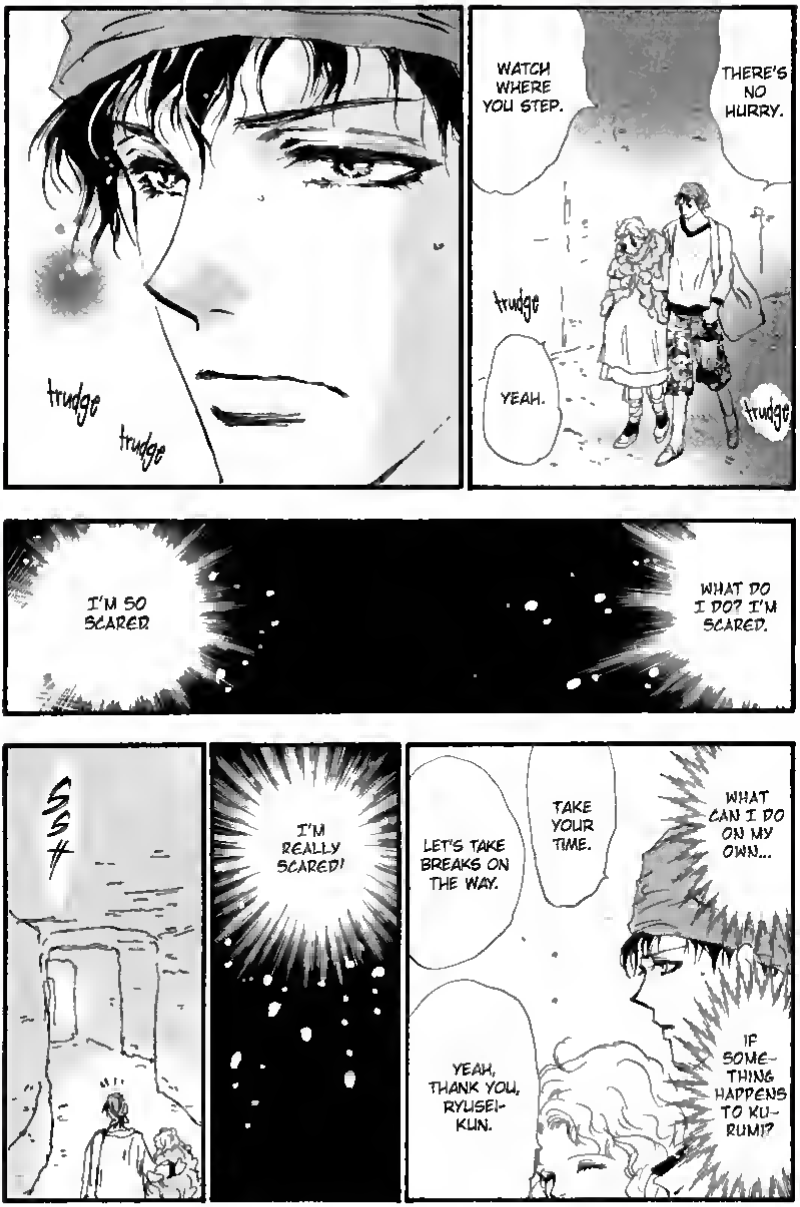
I'M WORRIED ABOUT KURUMI TOO...
trudge
trudge
trudge
What do we do if they come back?
SAY, DOESN'T IT BOTHER YOU?


IT'S A LITTLE BRIGHTER. .
OVER THERE.

HEY!
BAM
BAM
BAM
SOME-BODY,
HELLO!


SHOULD WE CHECK IT OUT?
MAYBE IT'LL LEAD OUTSIDE.

IT LOOKS LIKE NOBODY NOTICED IT.
Can't they hear us?


trudge
trudge
WATCH WHERE YOU STEP.
THERE'S NO HURRY.
trudge
YEAH.
trudge
I'M SO SCARED
WHAT DO I DO? I'M SCARED.
SS#
I'M REALLY SCARED!
LET'S TAKE BREAKS ON THE WAY.
TAKE YOUR TIME.
WHAT CAN I DO ON MY OWN...
YEAH, THANK YOU, RYUSEI-KUN.
IF SOME-THING HAPPENS TO KU-RUMI?

SSHH
WHOA!

Whoa...
AMAZ-ING...
SSH
THERE ARE HOLES IN THE CEILING.
IT'S RAINING, I GUESS.
THERE'S LIGHT COMING FROM THERE TOO.
WELL,
BUT THAT MEANS THAT WE WON'T BE SHORT ON WATER.
BUT WE CAN'T GET OUTSIDE THROUGH THESE HOLES...

fuh
SSH
DRY BRANCHES ARE BEING WASHED DOWN TOO
WE CAN LIGHT A FIRE WITH THEM.
SOME PLANTS ARE GROWING HERE AS WELL.
hah
I FEEL KIND OF BETTER NOW.
BECAUSE OF THE WATER AND THE AIR FROM OUTSIDE,
WHERE DID WE COME FROM?
I DON'T KNOW.
OF HOLES.
THIS PLACE IS FULL...
YEAH...
BUT...
IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY,

DON'T DO IT.
I THINK WE MUSTN'T SEPARATE.
SHOULD I GO AND CHECK OUT SOME OF THE HOLES?
MAYBE THEY'LL LEAD SOME-WHERE.
STOP, RYUSEI-KUN.
KURUMI, YOU WAIT HERE...
...
AH, Y...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHAT DO I DO?
RIGHT.
THE ENTRANCE MIGHT VANISH AGAIN.
ha, ha
SHOULD WE MAKE A FIRE FOR NOW?
SO,
WHAT...
IF MY LABOUR PAINS...
START IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.?

I CAN'T DO ANY-THING...
IF KURUMI'S CONDITION GETS WORSE...
OR IF HER LABOUR PAINS START.
AND I FELT SO REAS-SURED.
BECAUSE BAN-CHAN,
AKANE, AND THE OTHERS WERE HERE.
DON'T WORRY, KURUMI.
IT'S OKAY.
WE'LL BE ABLE TO MEET THEM SOON.
EVEN THOUGH I WAS DETER-MINED TO DO ANYTHING FOR HER.
WITH THE OTHERS QUICKLY.
WE NEED TO JOIN UP...

WHOOSH
EVEN THOUGH THE WIND IS BLOWING THIS STRONG...
AND I'VE BEEN WALKING FOR HOURS, I DIDN'T REACH THE EXIT.

IT FEELS AS IF WE'VE BEEN RUNNING IN CIRCLES
What's with this place?
I'm dead tired.
LET'S TAKE A SHORT BREAK
HARU...
WHERE ARE YOU...?
DON'T GIVE UP.
KORURI,

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
AN ANT NEST?

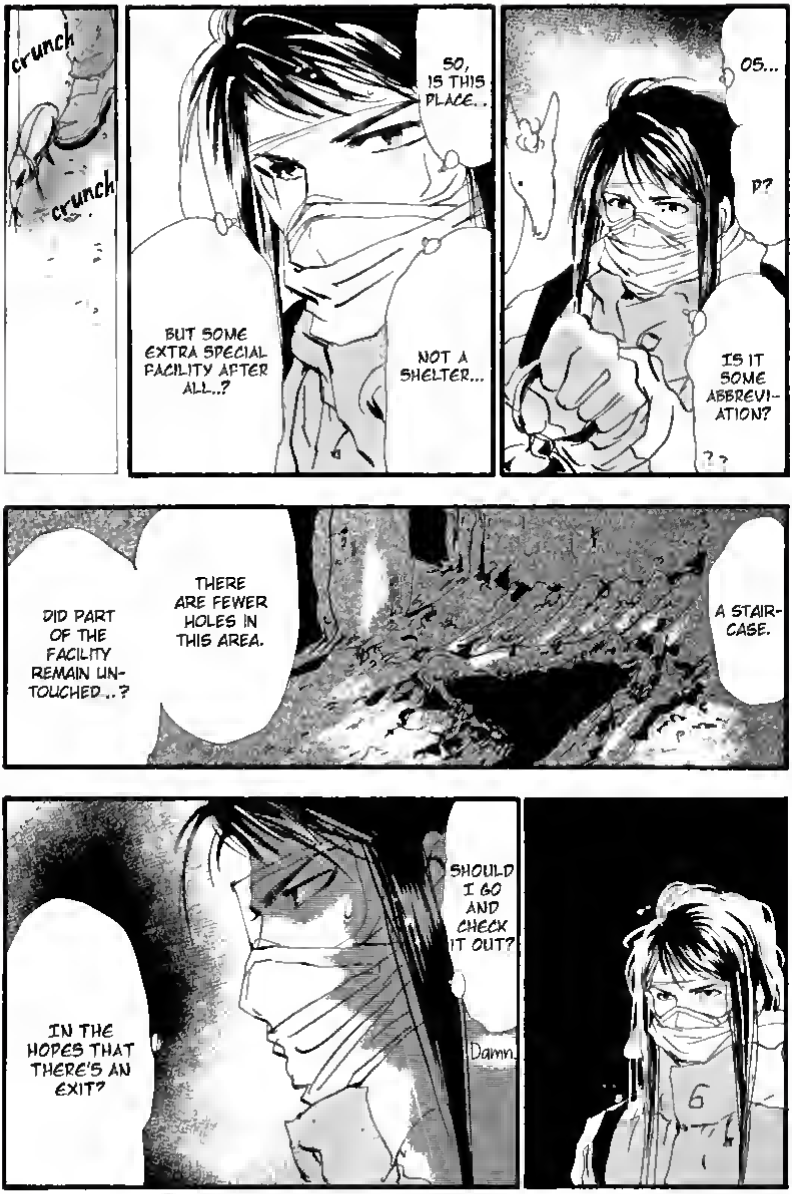
KORURI...

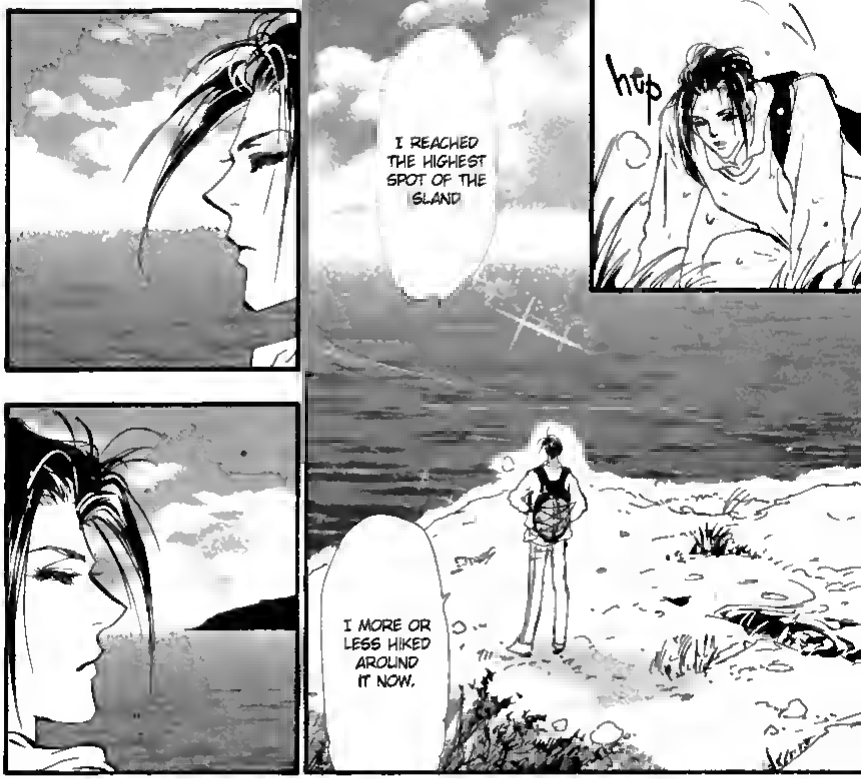
THEY MUST HAVE NOTICED ME.
BUT IT'S AS IF THEY HAVE NO INTEREST IN ME YET.
They seem busy.
WHAT DO I DO?
WITHOUT DRAWING THE ANTS' ATTENTION, IS THERE...?
THERE'S NO WAY TO MOVE!!

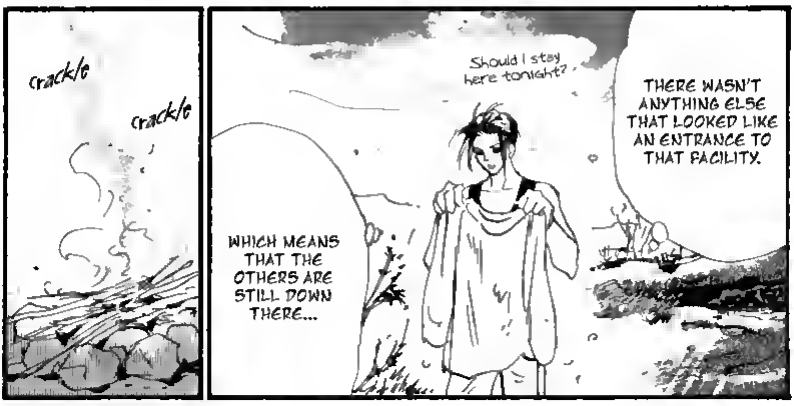
THEY ONLY CONSUME THE ANTS' FOOD STORES.
FOR SOME REASON, THEY WON'T BE EATEN.
CLEVER LITTLE GUYS...
THAT OTHER INSECTS SECRETLY MINGLE WITH THE ANTS IN THEIR NEST.
I saw it in a book or during practice.
SOMETIMES IT HAPPENS.
BY SECRETING SOME PHEROMONE.
THEY MIMIC ANTS.
My friends
TO DECEIVE THEM WITH THIS GUY
I MAY BE ABLE...
hop
tug
slide
IN THAT CASE,

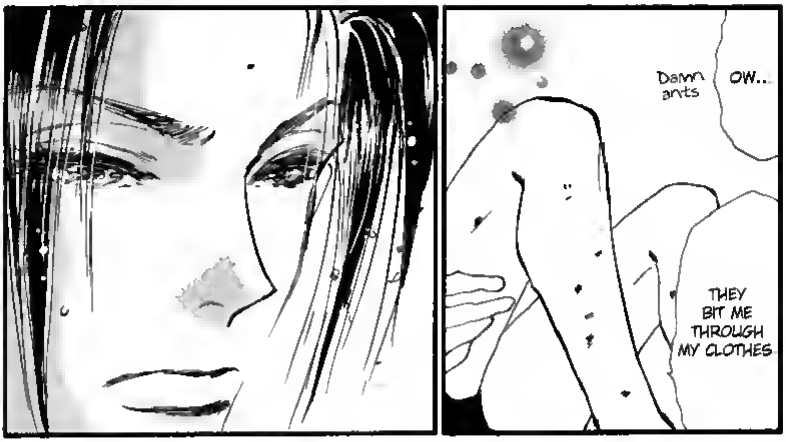
MAYBE I CAN GET PAST THEM...
LIKE THIS...
WITHOUT CAUSING A STIR
This one too
hop
THERE ARE QUITE A FEW AROUND
Of various species.
I'LL PUT ONE
ON GURI AND GURA AS WELL.
tug
ONLY,
I DON'T KNOW THE WAY
NOR WHERE I AM NOW,
OR WHERE THE EXIT IS EITHER

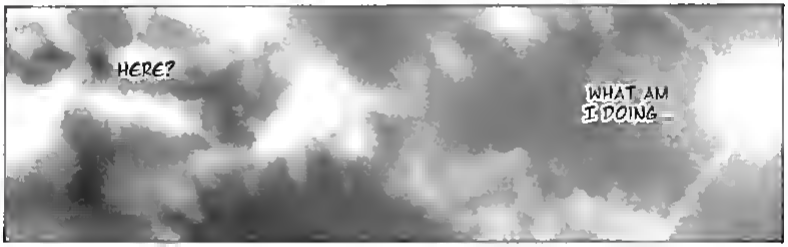
WIPE
WHAT'S THIS?
LET-TERS..?
WIPE


crunch
crunch
SO, IS THIS PLACE..
BUT SOME EXTRA SPECIAL FACILITY AFTER ALL..?
NOT A SHELTER...
05...
P?
IS IT SOME ABBREVI-ATION?
??
DID PART OF THE FACILITY REMAIN UN-TOUCHED..?
THERE ARE FEWER HOLES IN THIS AREA.
A STAIR-CASE.
IN THE HOPES THAT THERE'S AN EXIT?
SHOULD I GO AND CHECK IT OUT?
Damn.
6


I REACHED THE HIGHEST SPOT OF THE ISLAND
hup
I MORE OR LESS HIKED AROUND IT NOW.


crackle
crackle
WHICH MEANS THAT THE OTHERS ARE STILL DOWN THERE...
Should I stay here tonight?
THERE WASN'T ANYTHING ELSE THAT LOOKED LIKE AN ENTRANCE TO THAT FACILITY.

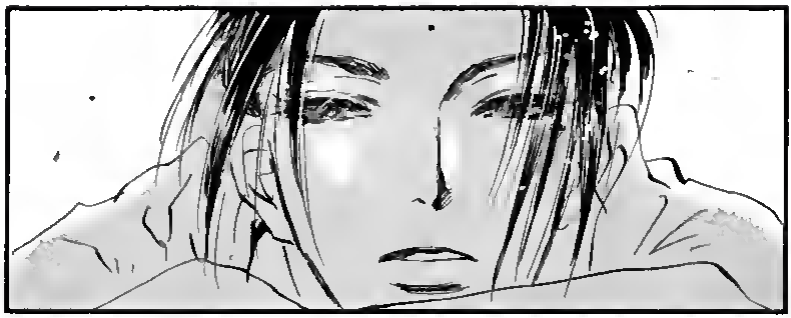

Damn ants
OW..
THEY BIT ME THROUGH MY CLOTHES


HERE?
WHAT AM I DOING

WHAT THE HECK...
AM I DOING?

SO, ISN'T IT A WASTE?
ARE THE OTHERS ALREADY DEAD?
ISN'T IT POINTLESS?
WHY...
TO PUT MYSELF AT RISK FOR OTHERS?
DO I HAVE...
BUT...
IF THIS WAS A TEST, I'D BE DISQUALIFIED

BUT
STILL!



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FLOWER COMICS α
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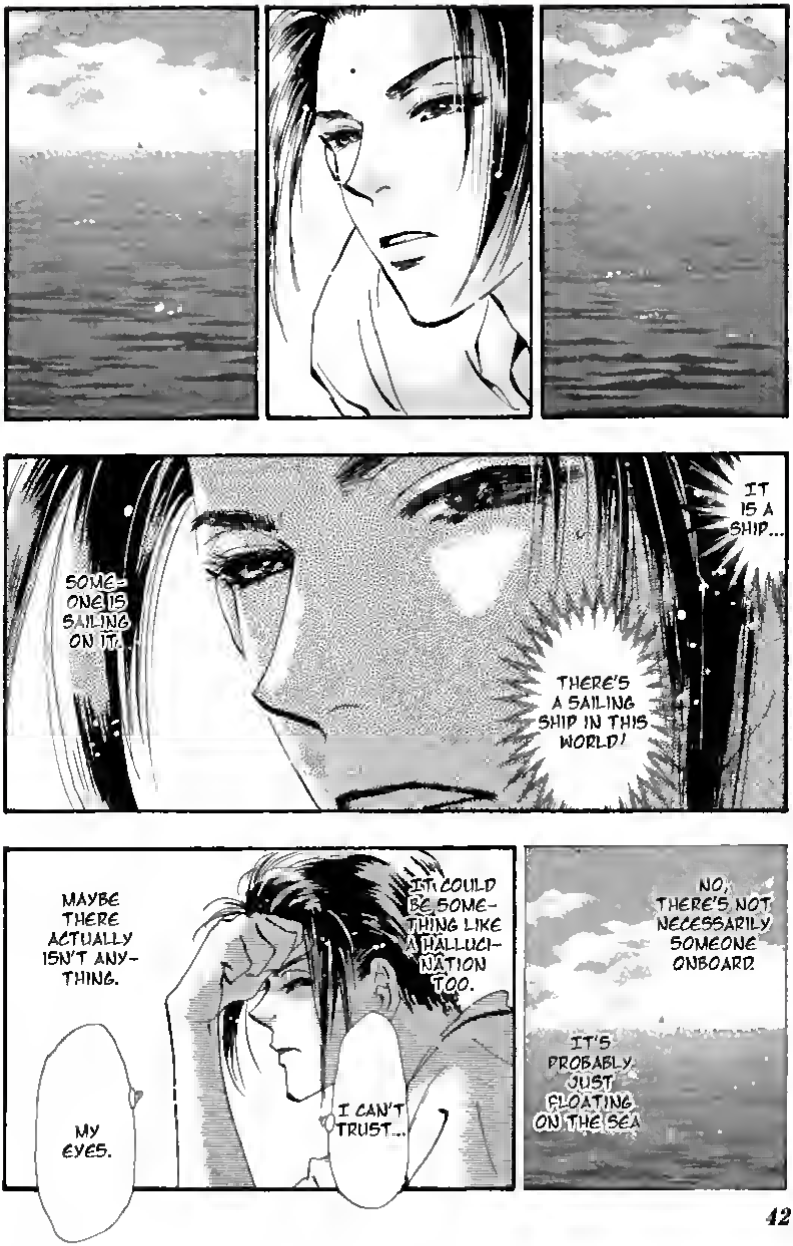
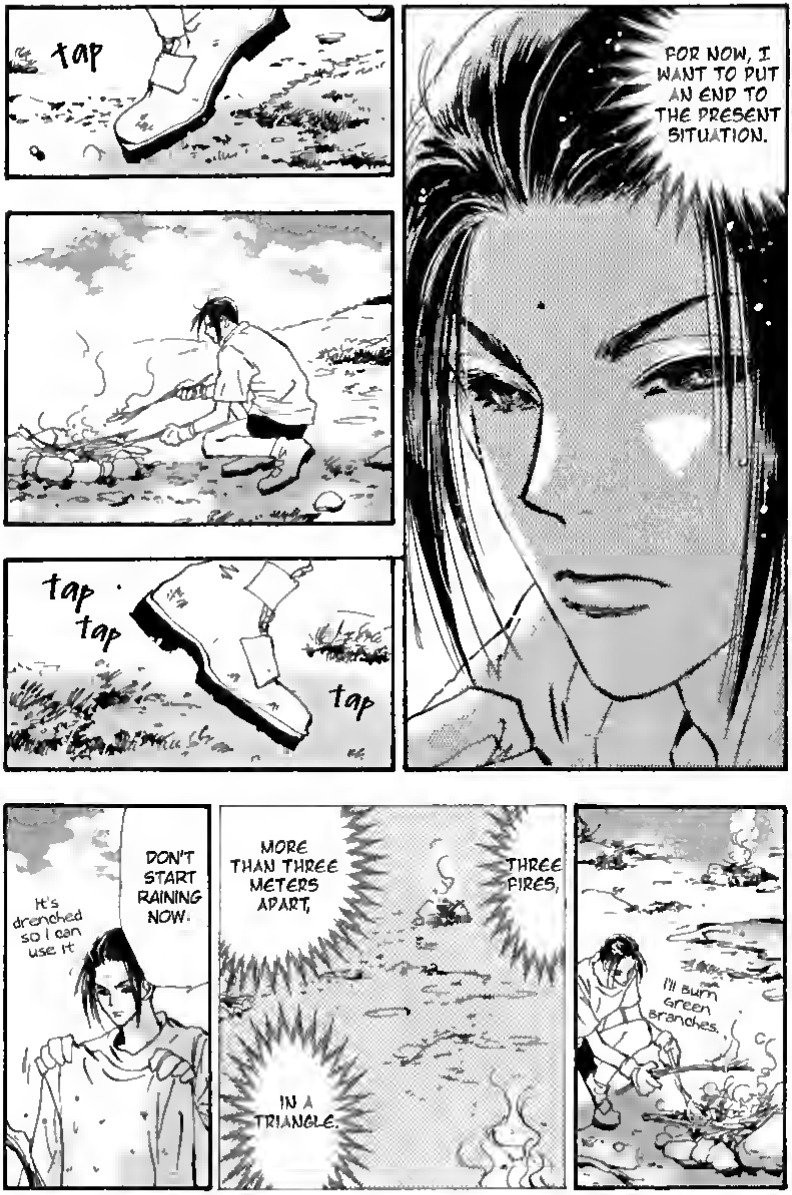
Ocean Chapter 4

[— How —]

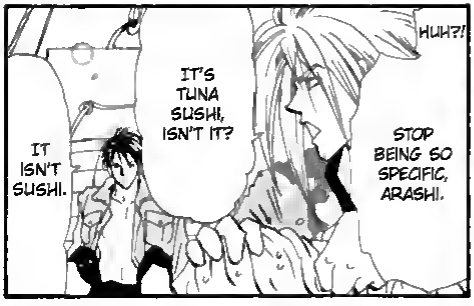

IT IS A SHIP...
THERE'S A SAILING SHIP IN THIS WORLD!
SOME-ONE IS SAILING ON IT.
IT COULD BE SOME-THING LIKE A HALLUCI-NATION TOO.
I CAN'T TRUST...
MAYBE THERE ACTUALLY ISN'T ANY-THING.
MY EYES.
NO, THERE'S NOT NECESSARILY SOMEONE ONBOARD.
IT'S PROBABLY JUST FLOATING ON THE SEA.

THE SHIP DURING THAT TEST.
IT WENT UP IN A MIGHTY BLAST.
WAS A TRAP.
BUT...
WHAT DO I DO?
SHOULD I TRY TO GIVE A SIGNAL...?
THERE'S NO WAY THAT OUR TEACHERS ARE ONBOARD AGAIN, IS THERE?
THAT'S WHAT YOU GUYS NEED TO FOCUS ON IN THE FUTURE.
WATCHING, DECIDING, AND ACTING ACCORDINGLY.
THAT'S RIGHT, KANAME-SAN.
YES.
KEEP YOUR HEAD
CALM DOWN.


tap
FOR NOW, I WANT TO PUT AN END TO THE PRESENT SITUATION.
tap
tap
tap
DON'T START RAINING NOW.
It's drenched so I can use it
MORE THAN THREE METERS APART,
THREE FIRES,
IN A TRIANGLE.
I'll burn green branches.

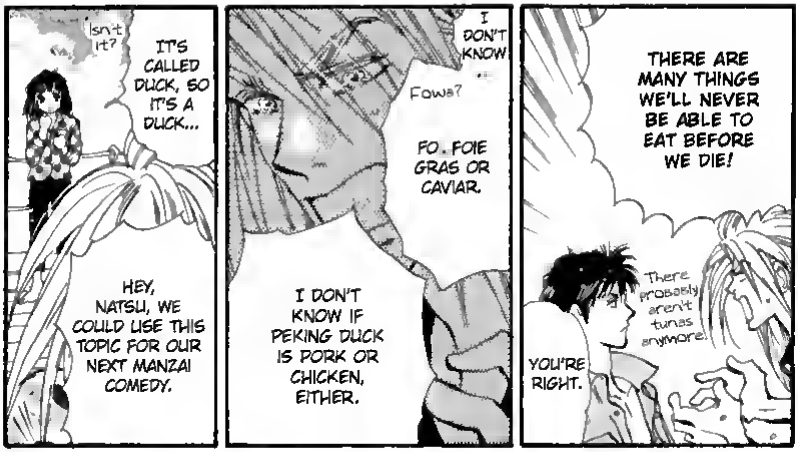
crackle
crackle
AND RELEASE IT.
I'LL GATHER SMOKE,
DID THEY NOTICE IT?!
AND RELEASE IT.
AND GATHER SMOKE,

SSHH
Splish
Splish

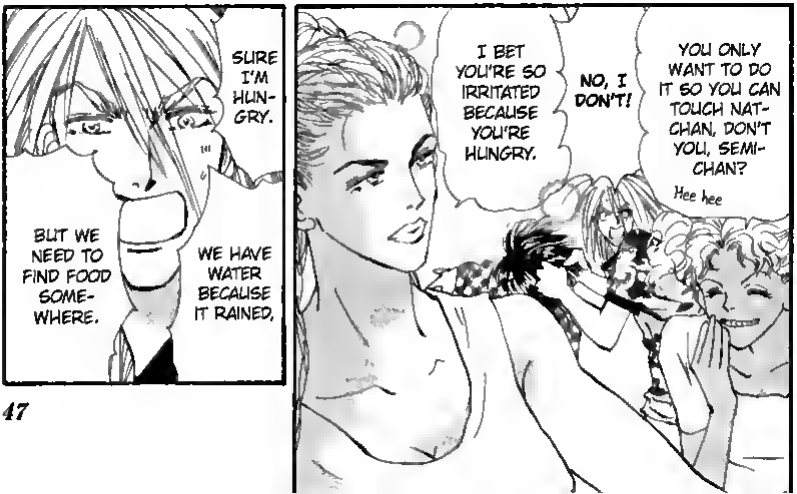

HUH?!
IT'S TUNA SUSHI, ISN'T IT?
IT ISN'T SUSHI.
STOP BEING SO SPECIFIC, ARASHI.

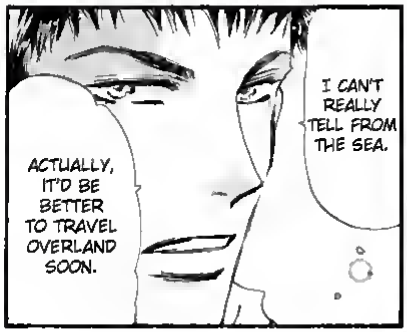
I'D LIKE TO EAT TUNA FLAKES.
If only we had some, and white rice to go with it
And afterwards scrambled eggs and seaweed with rice.

We're common people after all
WELL, I ONLY KNOW CONVEYOR BELT SUSHI.
TRUTH IS, I'VE HARDLY EVER BEEN TO A SUSHI RESTAURANT.
WHICH MEANS...
I've never eaten it at home either

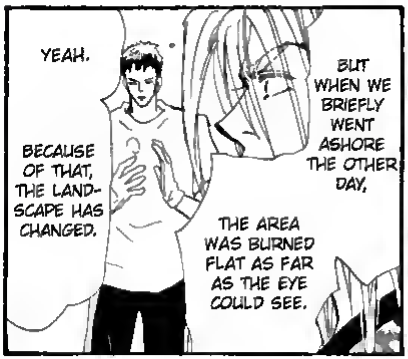

Isn't it?
IT'S CALLED DUCK, SO IT'S A DUCK...
HEY, NATSU, WE COULD USE THIS TOPIC FOR OUR NEXT MANZAI COMEDY.
I DON'T KNOW
Fowa?
FO. FOIE GRAS OR CAVIAR.
I DON'T KNOW IF PEKING DUCK IS PORK OR CHICKEN, EITHER.
THERE ARE MANY THINGS WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO EAT BEFORE WE DIE!
There probably aren't tunas anymore.
YOU'RE RIGHT.

CH...
CHERRIES
YOU'RE NOT COMING ACROSS AS BEING CUTE!
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT NOW?


SURE I'M HUNGRY.
BUT WE NEED TO FIND FOOD SOMEWHERE.
WE HAVE WATER BECAUSE IT RAINED.
I BET YOU'RE SO IRRITATED BECAUSE YOU'RE HUNGRY.
NO, I DON'T!
YOU ONLY WANT TO DO IT SO YOU CAN TOUCH NAT-CHAN, DON'T YOU, SEMI-CHAN?
Hee hee


I CAN'T REALLY TELL FROM THE SEA.
ACTUALLY, IT'D BE BETTER TO TRAVEL OVERLAND SOON.

creak
HEY, ANGO!
WHERE IS THE VILLAGE OF YOUR FRIENDS?


YEAH.
BECAUSE OF THAT, THE LANDSCAPE HAS CHANGED.
BUT WHEN WE BRIEFLY WENT ASHORE THE OTHER DAY,
THE AREA WAS BURNED FLAT AS FAR AS THE EYE COULD SEE.

You're right
EVEN THOUGH IT RAINS EVERY DAY.
THERE AREN'T ANY FIREMEN ANYMORE, EITHER...

IT SEEMS THAT IT'S STILL BURNING.

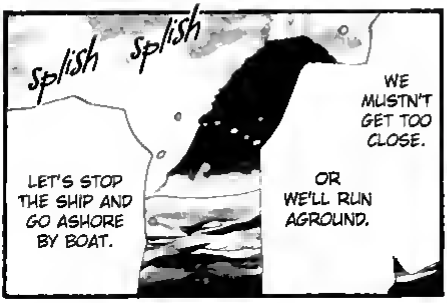
IT WAS A BIG FIRE.
WHAT DO WE DO?
DOES THAT MEAN THAT THERE ISN'T ANYMORE FOOD?!

HEY...
ANGO.
THREE COLUMNS OF SMOKE.
IT'S SOS.
WHO IS IT?
THE NUMBERS ARE LIMITED.
THERE'S A HIGH POSSIBILITY THAT IT'S SOMEONE WE KNOW.
Really?
WHAT?
Now that you mention it...

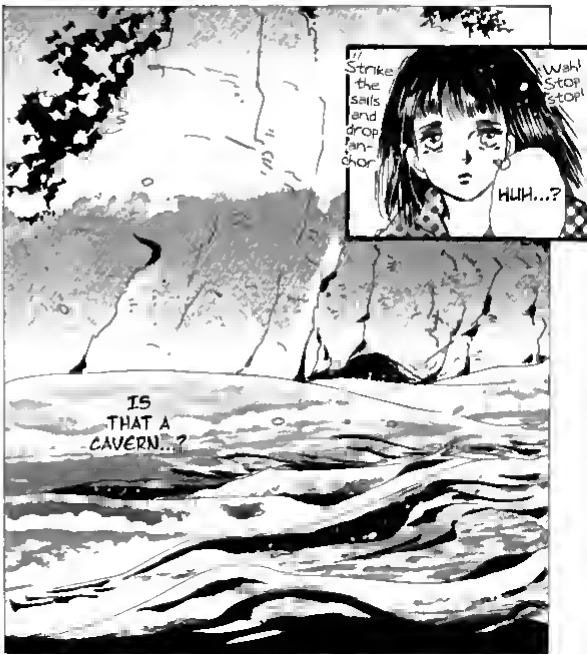
SPLASH
SEMIMARU, HARD STARBOARD!
SHOULD WE CHECK IT OUT?
AYE AYE!
I STILL... HAVE A SNEAKING SUSPICION...
THAT IT COULD BE A TRAP..
NIJIKO WOULDN'T GO, I GUESS.
Splish Splish
NO MATTER WHO IT IS, WE'LL MEET SOMEONE NEW.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
It's SOS, though
I'LL HIDE AND SEE HOW THINGS PLAY OUT.
IF IT'S A TRAP, I'LL HAVE TO FLEE.
THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY.
THEY'VE NOTICED IT.

SS+
ARASHI-KUN MUST HAVE THE SAME THOUGHT.

WHAT IF IT'S HANA-SAN?

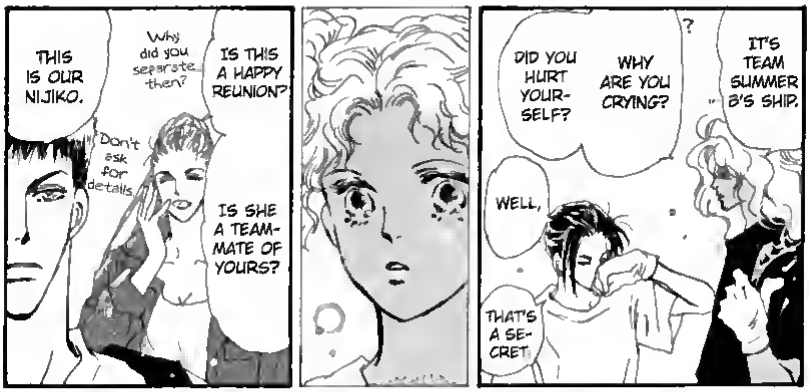

Splish Splish
WE MUSTN'T GET TOO CLOSE.
LET'S STOP THE SHIP AND GO ASHORE BY BOAT.
OR WE'LL RUN AGROUND.

THEN, I'LL GO.
WE'LL GO AHEAD. If someone wants to come, let's go
RYO-KUN, ME TOO, ME TOO!
I'll come as well!

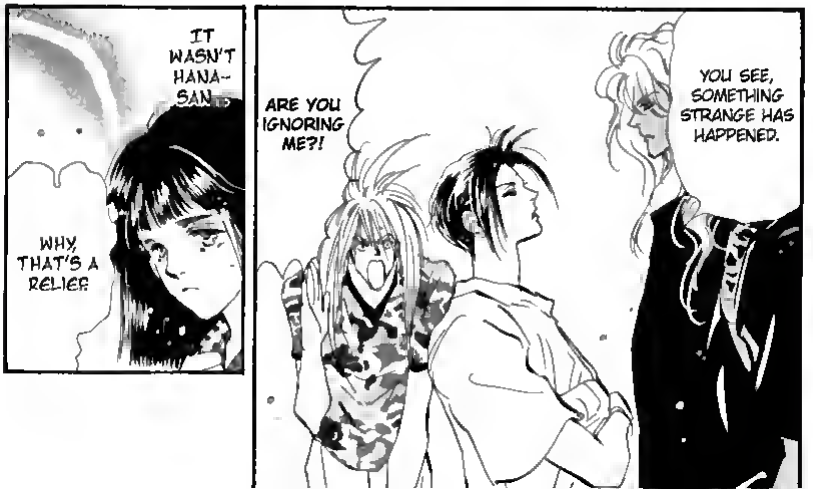

"Strike the sails and drop anchor"
"Wah! Stop, stop!"
HUH...?
IS THAT A CAVERN...?

Splash
Splash
RYO?
NIJIKO?

THE SIGNAL FIRE WAS MADE SO PROFESSIONALLY.
NO WONDER...
Splash
Splash
IT'S YOU.
Splash
Splash
WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO YOUR PLACE.
ARE THE OTHERS WITH YOU?
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT SHIP?
WHY IS THAT?
MY EYES ARE WATERING
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T GET SAND IN MY EYES OR ANYTHING,


THIS IS OUR NIJIKO.
Why did you separate then?
Don't ask for details
IS THIS A HAPPY REUNION?
IS SHE A TEAM-MATE OF YOURS?
IT'S TEAM SUMMER B'S SHIP.
?
DID YOU HURT YOUR-SELF?
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
WELL,
THAT'S A SE-CRET

Yeah!
Everyone came
I'm glad we're able to meet
Oh!
Wah!
A GIRL!
SHE'S A MEMBER OF TEAM SUMMER A?
I'M SEMIMARU! NICE TO MEET YOU!
SHE LOOKS LIKE A COOL BEAUTY, DOESN'T SHE?


IT WASN'T HANA-SAN.
WHY, THAT'S A RELIEF.
ARE YOU IGNORING ME?!
YOU SEE, SOMETHING STRANGE HAS HAPPENED.

SHOCK
MATSURI-CHAN...
I wonder if this is edible.
I THOUGHT SO,
BUT I'M NOT SURE.
THEY GET ALONG VERY WELL.
She didn't come with us.
We need to dry wood
ANGO-KUN, ANGO-KUN,
DON'T TELL ME ..
THAT SHE IS RYO-KUN'S GIRL-FRIEND?

BUT LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING FIRST.
I'LL EXPLAIN THE CIRCUM-STANCES,
WE WERE FLEEING FROM THE FOREST FIRE AND CAME HERE.

KANAME-SAN APPEARED.

NIJI-KO,
WHY DID YOU TRUST KANAME-SAN?
THE OLD MAN...
SO HE JOINED TEAM SUMMER B..?
IS ROAMING THE AREA AS HE PLEASES
SO, HE CAME HERE?
KA-NAME-SAN?
YOU MEAN MOZU?
KANAME MOZU-NOTO?
DO YOU KNOW HIM?
YOU FELL INTO HIS TRAP, DIDN'T YOU?
AND WHAT WAS THE RESULT?
DON'T BE TAKEN IN BY HIM OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
AND KURUMI-SAN DIDN'T FEEL WELL.
THE FIRE WAS CLOSING IN ON US,
I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE.
WHY WOULD MOZU-SAN SET A TRAP...?
U... UM,
THAT HE WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT HE WAS DIFFERENT THAN UNAMI.
Kaname-san told me that he wouldn't come here, though
GENGORO-KUN SAID IT TOO.

HE'S ONE OF THE MASTERMINDS BEHIND THIS PROJECT.
HE WAS PART OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THAT FACILITY.

NOR WHAT HE WAS THINKING,
I DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT KANAME-SAN.
OR WHAT HE THOUGHT OF US, EITHER.

BUT HE'S ON THE OTHER SIDE!

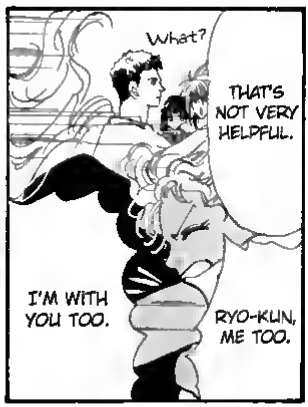
I NEVER THOUGHT...
THAT HE'D COME HERE...
BUT STILL
I FEEL SO NOS-TALGIC.
WHAT DOES THIS LONGING MEAN?!
IT'S OKAY, ANGO-SAN.

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
WE ARE WITH YOU NOW.

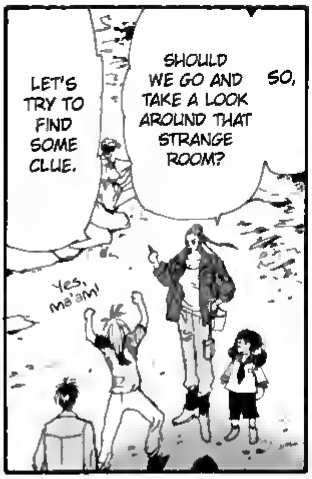
NATSU AND I ARE WITH YOU AS WELL.
Hee hee
RYO.
THAT'S RIGHT, ANGO,
RIGHT?
Y...YES.

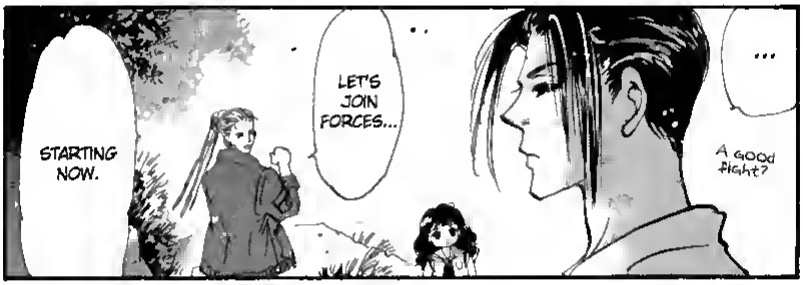
?

Let go


What?
THAT'S NOT VERY HELPFUL.
I'M WITH YOU TOO.
RYO-KUN, ME TOO.

I'm sure you felt lonely.
NIJIKO-SAN,
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD FOR YOU, ALL ON YOUR OWN.
YOU PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT.


LET'S TRY TO FIND SOME CLUE.
SHOULD WE GO AND TAKE A LOOK AROUND THAT STRANGE ROOM?
SO,
Yes, ma'am!


STARTING NOW.
LET'S JOIN FORCES...
...
A good fight?

THEY HARDLY EVER SHOW UP AT THE SEASIDE.
THERE ARE FEWER NEST HOLES TOO.
AND THEY NEVER COME OUT AFTER IT RAINS.
Ah, it started raining.

What? Yuck! That's horrible.
THEY'RE HUGE, AND THEY BITE.

AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
WE COULD COME ACROSS ANTS ON OUR WAY. SO BE CAREFUL.
DO THEY BITE?

ST
EP

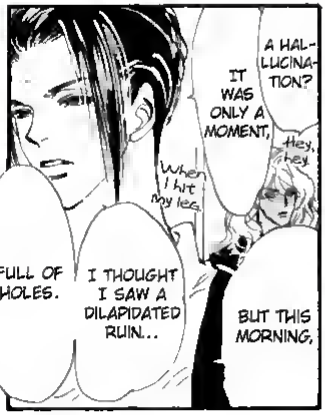
Stomp
Stomp
HEH!
IT LOOKS COZY!
Whoa!
IT'S STILL NICE AND CLEAN.
Well, the ship is in good condition too.
brought a light.
AMAZING!
How pretty

HERE WE ARE.

Kayo!
NATSU
BE CAREFUL.
OKAY.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'LL FIND HERE.

It's so dark that I can't see the ground properly.
AND THEN, ALL OF THEM VANISHED...
DURING THE NIGHT FOR SOME REASON...

THAT SCARY TEAM AUTUMN...
I'm sure it can't be as bad as that ship the other day
thump thump
AND OTHER MEMBERS OF TEAM SUMMER A WERE HERE...


A HALLUCINATION?
IT WAS ONLY A MOMENT,
Hey, hey
When I hit my leg
FULL OF HOLES.
I THOUGHT I SAW A DILAPIDATED RUIN...
BUT THIS MORNING,

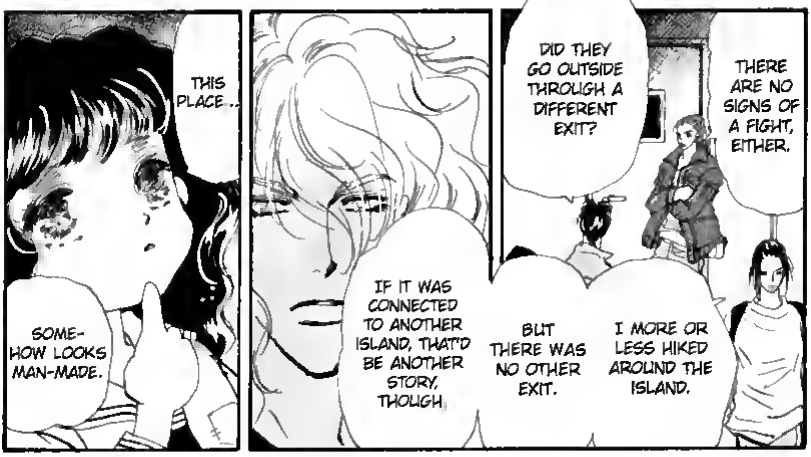
WHAT IF IT'S A HALLUCINATION?
I MEAN THAT IT PROBABLY ONLY LOOKS THAT WAY

I won't go inside.
RYO,
DOES IT LOOK LIKE A PROPER ROOM TO YOU?
IF IT... LOOKS LIKE ONE?
A RELATIVELY CLEAN ONE?

A RUIN...?

THEY LEFT BY CHOICE.
...WHERE TO?

GENGORO, AS WELL AS KORURI AND BAN.
THE LAMPS ARE GONE TOO.
WHICH MEANS,
THEY LEFT THEIR STUFF BEHIND.
BUT THEY REMOVED THE SMALL BACKPACKS AND TOOK THEM ALONG.


THIS PLACE...
SOME-HOW LOOKS MAN-MADE.
IF IT WAS CONNECTED TO ANOTHER ISLAND, THAT'D BE ANOTHER STORY, THOUGH.
BUT THERE WAS NO OTHER EXIT.
I MORE OR LESS HIKED AROUND THE ISLAND.
DID THEY GO OUTSIDE THROUGH A DIFFERENT EXIT?
THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF A FIGHT, EITHER.

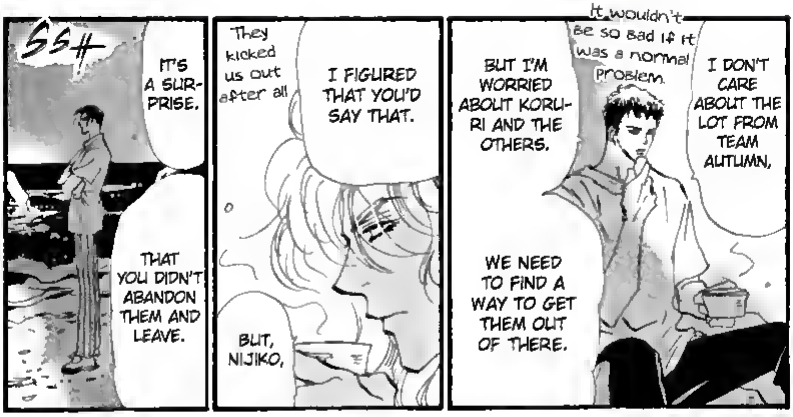
we could live here too
If this place isn't scary,
I don't want to live here.
Made by people
WELL, YOU'RE MAN-MADE TOO, AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

DO IT AGAIN.
WALK
HUH?
YOU DODGED SOMETHING OVER THERE, DIDN'T YOU?
NO, I WAS WALKING STRAIGHT AS AN ARROW?
THAT...
WAY?
Ryo-chin, won't you come in?
WHY...
DID YOU...
JUST WALK THAT WAY?
SEMI-MARU,
I TOLD YOU,
I CAME FROM HERE LIKE THIS.
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
AND THEN LIKE THIS.
SO?
What about it?
I WAS JUST WALKING STRAIGHT AHEAD, WASN'T I?

THEY ALL UNCONSCI-OUSLY...
DODGE SOMETHING AS THEY WALK.
PROBABLY ME TOO.
I CAN'T SEE THEM,
BUT WE IN-STINCTIVELY RECOGNIZE THEM,
AND AVOID THEM SO WE DON'T FALL IN...
I CAN'T SEE IT, AND IT FEELS LIKE I CAN'T TOUCH IT...
BUT I'M SURE IT'S THERE.
THERE'S A HOLE HERE.

THIS PLACE IS BAD NEWS!
OR IS IT SOME-THING ELSE ENTI-RELY?
What is it?!
Huh?
LET'S LEAVE!
stomp stomp
QUICKLY!
DID KANAME-SAN DO SOME-THING?
WHAT'S WITH THIS PLACE?
GUYS!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
COULD HAVE GONE FURTHER DOWN THROUGH THOSE HOLES...?
...DO YOU THINK THAT THE OTHERS..
IT'S PROBABLY JUST THE WAY YOU SAW IT.
A RUIN FULL OF HOLES.
hah hah
wheeze
NIJIKO.
BEFORE IT GETS DARK.
AND PITCH CAMP AT THE SEASIDE...
WE SHOULD FIND SOME FOOD...
BUT FIRST,
LET'S WORK OUT A WAY TO FACE THE SITUATION.
THEY PROBABLY LOST THEIR WAY AND CAN'T COME BACK.

ARE THOSE ANTS?
HEY, I SAW THEM. THOSE ANTS!
I saw them too.
THEY ARE ANTS.
THEY WERE HUGE.
Ugh! They're frightening.
THERE ARE MANY THINGS TO BE FOUND IN THE OCEAN TOO.
THERE'S PLENTY OF EDIBLE STUFF HERE.
No matter the time, food has priority.
THERE'S WATER AND GREENERY HERE DURING THE DRY SEASON TOO.
IF THEY'RE THIS HUGE AND IF THERE ARE SO MANY OF THEM,
I GUESS ANIMALS AND INSECTS GATHER HERE, THEN.
poof
WON'T THEY HAVE TROUBLE FINDING FOOD?
crackle
crackle
THEY'LL TAKE OTHER MEASURES, I SUPPOSE.
Their freedom of movement must be restricted, then.
WELL,
I WONDER WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN DURING THE RAINY SEASON.


SSH
IT'S A SURPRISE.
THAT YOU DIDN'T ABANDON THEM AND LEAVE.
They kicked us out after all
I FIGURED THAT YOU'D SAY THAT.
BUT, NIJIKO,
It wouldn't be so bad if it was a normal problem.
BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT KORURI AND THE OTHERS.
WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO GET THEM OUT OF THERE.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE LOT FROM TEAM AUTUMN,

INCLUDING TEAM AUTUMN.
I WANT TO SAVE THEM.

SSH
HEH...

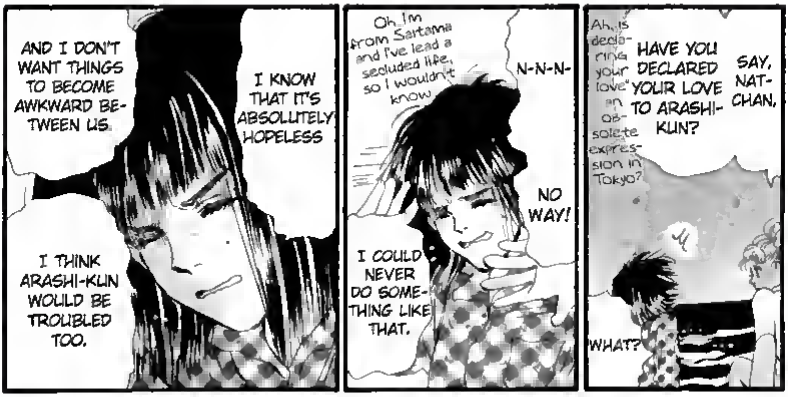
HANA-SAN?
WELL, SHE'S DEAD, ISN'T SHE?
UM...
DID YOU...
HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT HANA AFTER THAT INCIDENT?
EX-CUSE ME,
SSH
NIJIKO-SAN,
I'M...
ARASHI.

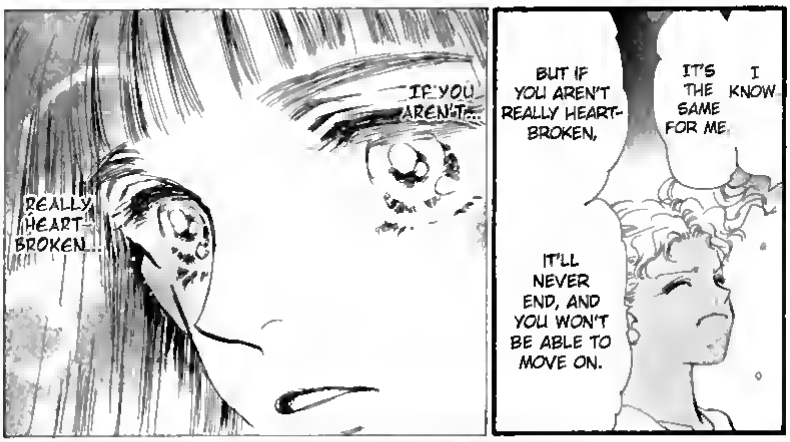
WOULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME?
CONCERN-ING HANA,
KNOW ANY-THING...
...IF YOU...

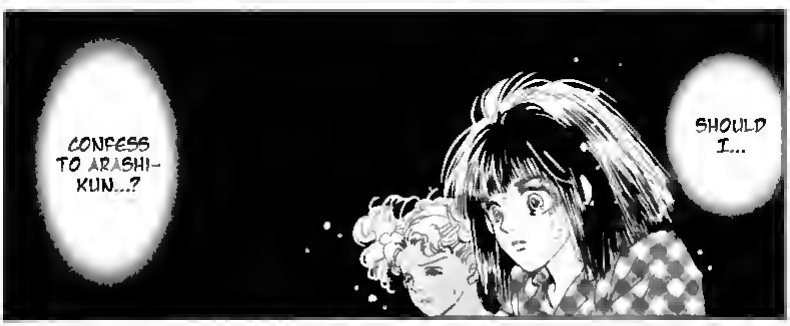
I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING.
BECAUSE IT'S NOT OF ANY INTEREST TO ME.

Don't be so noisy.
UM,
IS IT TRUE...
THAT YOU'RE RYO-KUN'S GIRLFRIEND?
EX-CUSE ME!
NIJIKO-SAN!
MATSURI-CHAN.
NAT-CHAN, YOU MUSTN'T ONLY WATCH HIM
I'M GOING TO CON-FRONT HER.
You're a pain.
WELL,
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT BETWEEN US.
WHAT?
REALLY?
YOU SEE,
I LIKE RYO-KUN TOO.
AND I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE HIM UP.
THE ONE RYO LIKES IS KORURI-CHAN.
I THINK...

YES.
IS SHE A LIVELY PERSON WITH CURLS, BY ANY CHANCE?
SHE'S REALLY CUTE.
I DON'T DISLIKE PEOPLE WHO ARE LIVELY...
AND HAVE CURLS.
AH...
Like in chick?!
KO-
KO-
KO-
SOME-ONE FROM YOUR TEAM?!
KORURI-CHAN?!
Her name sounds kind of cute too
"KORURI-CHAN"...
YOU CAN DO ANY-THING IF YOU DON'T TAKE THINGS TOO SERIOUSLY, THOUGH.
NO, I'M NOT.
MATSURI-CHAN, YOU ARE COURA-GEOUS.
It's quite a shock
MAT-SURI-CHAN...


AND I DON'T WANT THINGS TO BECOME AWKWARD BETWEEN US.
I KNOW THAT IT'S ABSOLUTELY HOPELESS
I THINK ARASHI-KUN WOULD BE TROUBLED TOO.
Oh, I'm from Sartama and I've lead a secluded life, so I wouldn't know
N-N-N-
NO WAY!
I COULD NEVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
Ah, is declaring your love an obsolete expression in Tokyo?
HAVE YOU DECLARED YOUR LOVE TO ARASHI-KUN?
SAY, NAT-CHAN,
YI.
WHAT?


IF YOU AREN'T...
REALLY HEART-BROKEN...
BUT IF YOU AREN'T REALLY HEART-BROKEN,
IT'S THE SAME FOR ME.
I KNOW
IT'LL NEVER END, AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE ON.

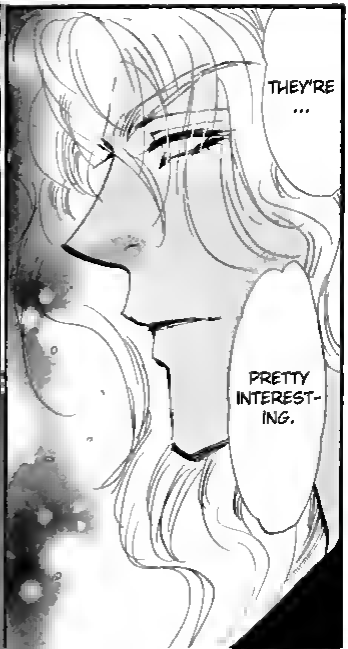

CONFESS TO ARASHI-KUN...?
SHOULD I...

I WAS LOOKING AT YOUR PALM.
TEE HEE HEE.
WHAT?
STARE
It's still stinging. Damn ants.
YOU'RE LIKE A NEWBORN BABY.
You're the baby here, aren't you?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
AH,
I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN IT DEPRECATINGLY.
ARE YOU TRYING TO INSULT ME?

TEAM SUMMER B IS OBTRUSIVE.
They're noisy
You're pretty much right
NOT ALL OF THEM ARE LIKE THAT, THOUGH.
He didn't hear me
Chimaki-chan, let's have some fun

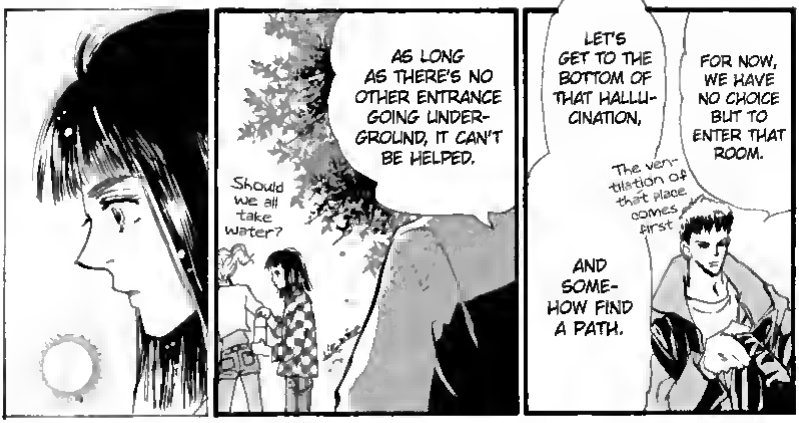
IT'S LIKE YOUR LIFE IS ONLY BEGINNING NOW.
tee hee hee
That's amazing!

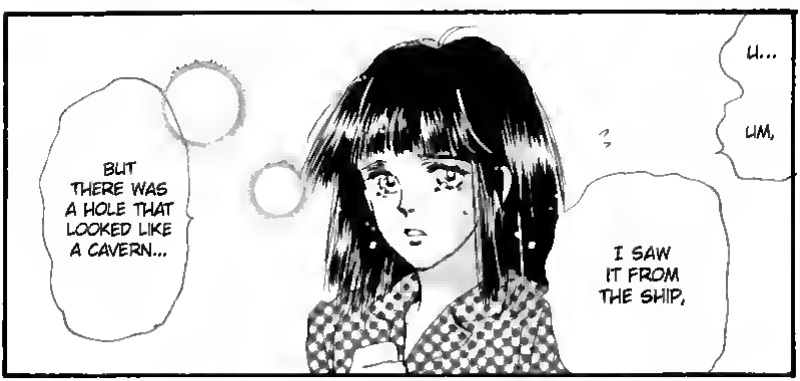
HEH...

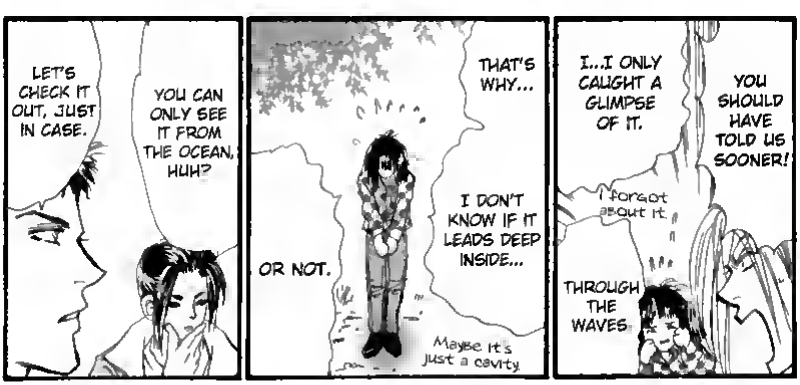

THEY'RE ...
PRETTY INTEREST-ING.

TO THINK THAT MEETING OTHERS...
FEELS SO REASSURING...

Eek! Rain!
THEY ARE NOISY
smile


AS LONG AS THERE'S NO OTHER ENTRANCE GOING UNDER-GROUND, IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
Should we all take water?
LET'S GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THAT HALLU-CINATION,
FOR NOW, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ENTER THAT ROOM.
The ven-tilation of that place comes first.
AND SOME-HOW FIND A PATH.


BUT THERE WAS A HOLE THAT LOOKED LIKE A CAVERN...
I SAW IT FROM THE SHIP.
?
UM,
U...


LET'S CHECK IT OUT, JUST IN CASE.
YOU CAN ONLY SEE IT FROM THE OCEAN, HUH?
THAT'S WHY...
I DON'T KNOW IF IT LEADS DEEP INSIDE...
OR NOT.
Maybe it's just a cavity
I...I ONLY CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF IT.
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD US SOONER!
I forgot about it.
THROUGH THE WAVES.

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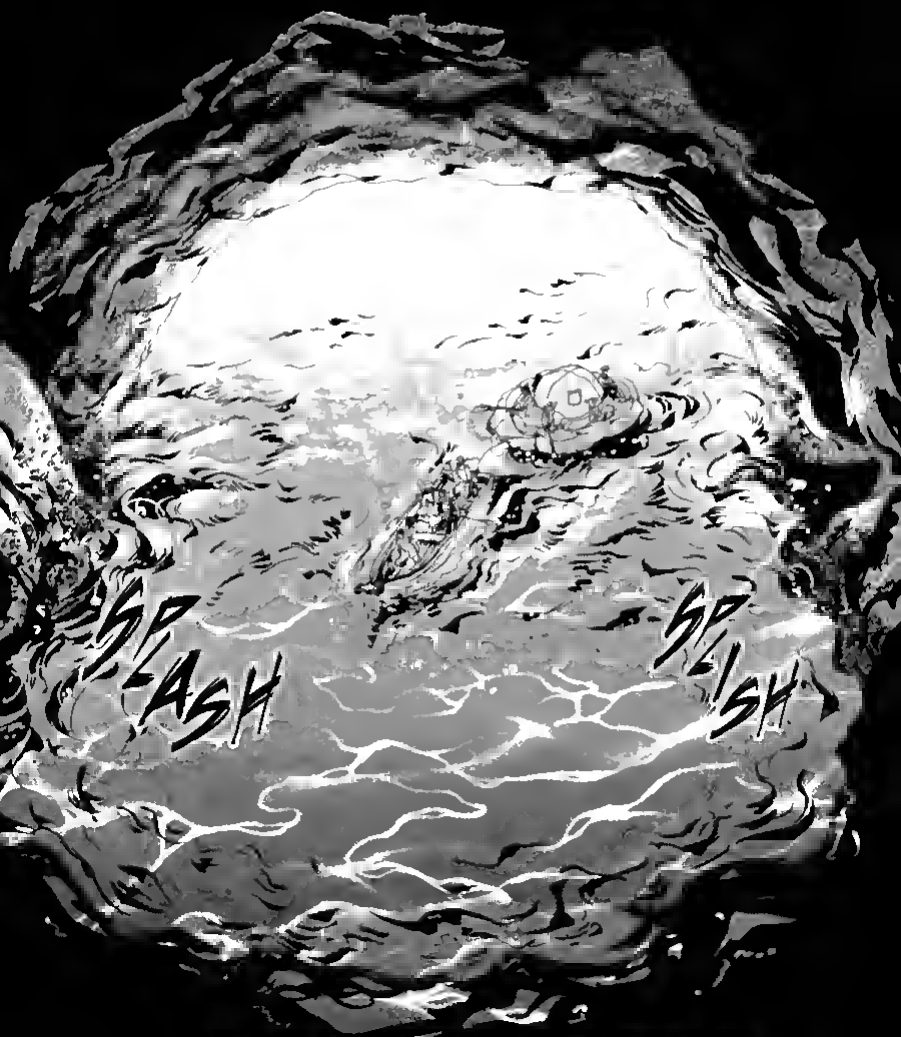
Ocean Chapter 5

[— Where —]



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IT SEEMS TO BECOME WIDER FURTHER INSIDE.
IT CONTINUES.
splish
splish
splish
splish
splish
IT WAS REINFORCED WITH CONCRETE.
THIS CAVERN WAS DUG BY PEOPLE.
splash
splish

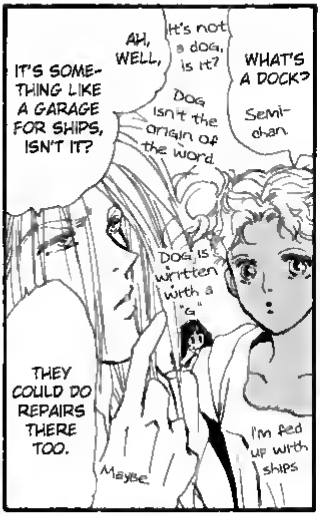
AS A RESULT, THE ROCK FACE LIES OPEN.
splish
BUT ALL OF IT CRUMBLED AWAY.
AWW
IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S BEEN PRESERVED FOR A LONG TIME AFTER-WARDS.
splish
AWW, MAN.
THERE'S ALWAYS NOTHING BUT RUINS WHEREVER WE GO.
Can't there be some shiny palace for a change?
splish
splish
THIS DEBRIS PROBABLY WAS A DOOR OF SOME SORT.

thump thump
tremble
tremble
IT'S PITCH-DARK...
splish
splish
Hello
Somebody
Hello
Somebody
HELLO!
splish
IS SOME-BODY HERE?
thump
thump
tremble
tremble
splish
AH!
Eek!
WHOA!
WHOOSH
Eep!

phew
hah hah
PATTER
RAIN.
IT'S A DOWN-POUR!
IT'S RAIN.
Don't scare me like that!
RAIN!
PATTER
HUH?
HEY, ARASHI,
STOP PLAYING THE "HEART-BREAKER" ALREADY.
?
YES...
splish
splish
NATSU,
It's okay
too hee
DON'T WORRY.
It frightened the life out of me.
Crunch
Creak
splash

A SHIP.
THIS SPACE PROBABLY WAS A DOCK.

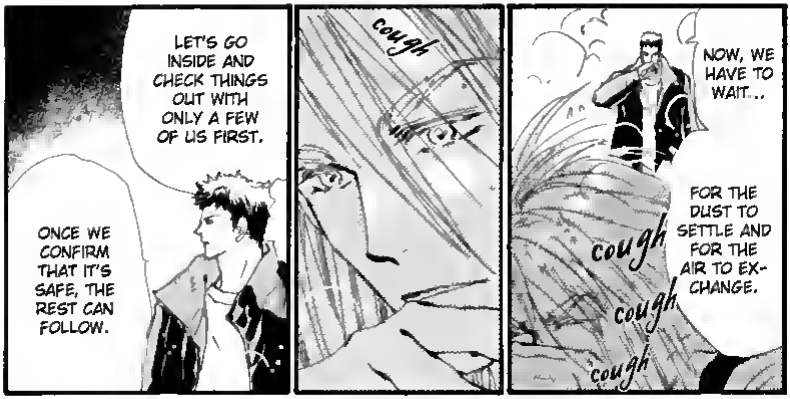
WHEN THE TIDE IS OUT, YOU CAN REACH THE OPPOSITE SHORE BY FOOT.
I WONDER IF THIS SHIP WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FOR SAILING SOMEWHERE.


WHAT'S A DOCK?
Semi-chan
It's not a dog, is it?
AH, WELL,
Dog isn't the origin of the word.
IT'S SOMETHING LIKE A GARAGE FOR SHIPS, ISN'T IT?
DOG is written with a "G"
THEY COULD DO REPAIRS THERE TOO.
Maybe
I'm fed up with ships

STOMP
STOMP

Whoa!
CRASH

HEY, THERE'S A DOOR OVER HERE.
THERE'S A ROOM OF SOME SORT BEHIND IT.
IT'S ALREADY HALF BROKEN DOWN, SO CAN I KICK IT DOWN COMPLETELY?

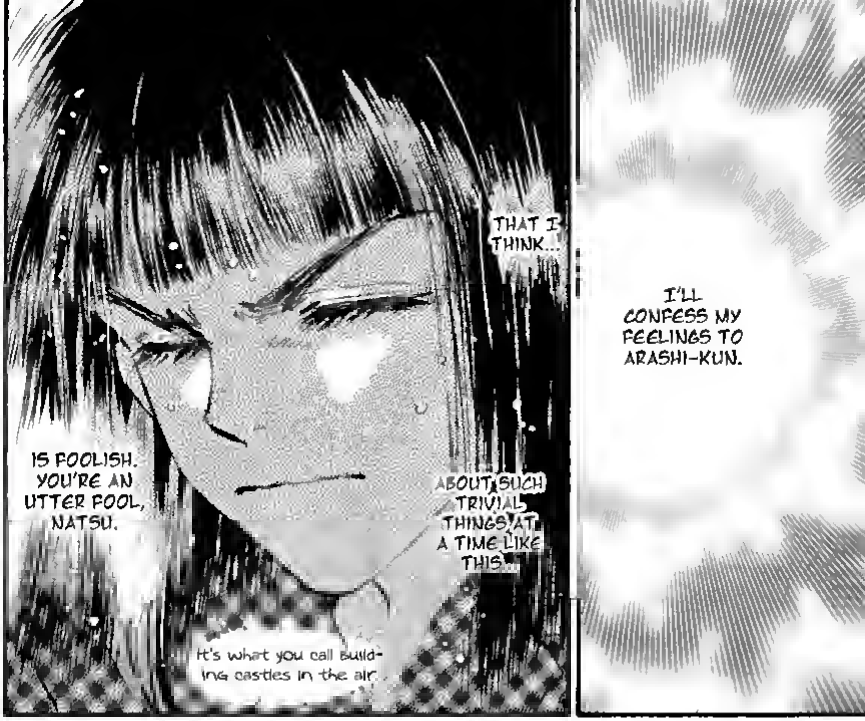

LET'S GO INSIDE AND CHECK THINGS OUT WITH ONLY A FEW OF US FIRST.
ONCE WE CONFIRM THAT IT'S SAFE, THE REST CAN FOLLOW.
cough
NOW, WE HAVE TO WAIT...
FOR THE DUST TO SETTLE AND FOR THE AIR TO EXCHANGE.
cough
cough
cough

I'LL GO, SO WHO WILL...

NIJIKO AND I WILL GO.
YOU WAIT AT THE CAMP, ANGO.

I'M OKAY NOW.
ANGO!
YOU STILL DON'T TRUST ME, DO YOU?
RYO,
BUT I'LL GO AFTER ALL.
WELL,
THERE ARE TIMES LIKE THIS TOO.
THAT'S UNEXPECTED, RYO. I can't believe it
You and Nijiko?
YOU NEED TO SET AN EXAMPLE, AND YOU MUSTN'T ACT RASHLY.
pat
AS A LEADER, YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT THE WHOLE PICTURE.
I'LL ACCOMPANY YOU, RYO-KUN!
OF COURSE,

I JUST REMEMBERED SOME BUSINESS I NEED TO TAKE CARE OF.
NO...
BUSI-NESS?!
What do you mean?
I haven't heard this expression in a while.
I'LL PASS.
HE DOESN'T HAVE TO!
SEMI-CHAN, YOU COME WITH US!
We're enough as is.
IF MATSURI GOES,
I'LL COME TOO.
Okay.
HOTARU, YOU STAY HERE.
IF ARASHI-KUN GOES, I'LL GO TOO.
IF HE STAYS, I'LL STAY AS WELL.
IT'S PATHETIC THAT I'M SO PASSIVE, THOUGH...
Hold on.
NO, ARASHI.
THEN, I'LL...
THERE'S SOMEPLACE I WANT YOU TO ACCOMPANY ME TO LATER.
?

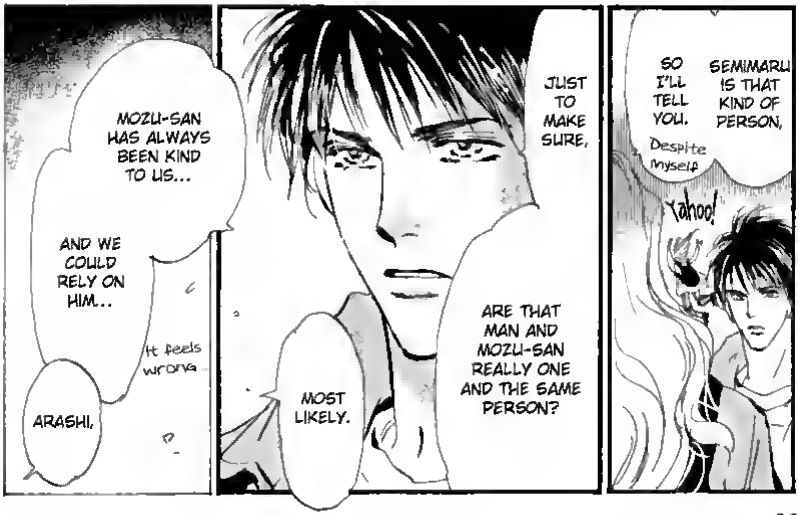

I'LL CONFESS MY FEELINGS TO ARASHI-KUN.
THAT I THINK...
ABOUT SUCH TRIVIAL THINGS AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
IS FOOLISH. YOU'RE AN UTTER FOOL, NATSU.
It's what you call building castles in the air.

Hurray for castles in the air! What's wrong about that?
NAT-CHAN!
IT'S OKAY BECAUSE IT IS A TIME LIKE THIS.
SAY, HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE SUSPENSION BRIDGE EFFECT*?

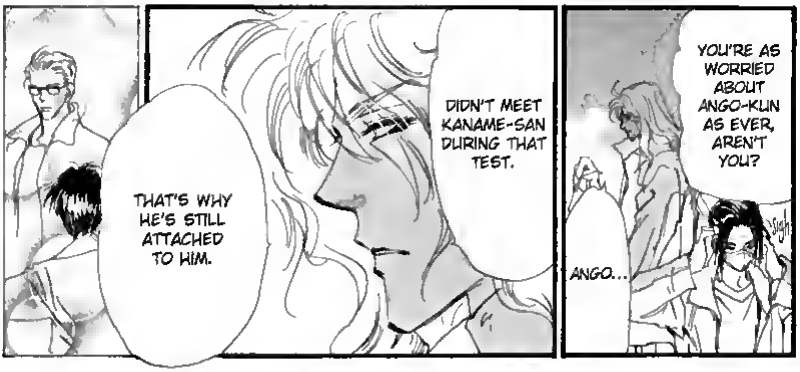
*misattribution of arousal

WHO ARE YOU TELLING THAT TO?
YOU CAN PREPARE LUNCH OR SOMETHING MEANWHILE.
UNDERSTOOD
NO MATTER WHAT YOU FIND INSIDE, COME BACK BY NOON.
DON'T DO ANYTHING RECKLESS.
CHIMAKI?!
FOR ONCE, I GUESS I'LL COME TOO.
What? That's amazing, Chimaki-chan!
You don't have to be that surprised. If there's matter for painting, I want it.
ARASHI
WE HAVE TO WEAR MASKS.
Spare fuel too. And water
I wonder if that stuff is still there
LET'S EACH TAKE A LAMP.
Step
TAKE CARE OF ANGO FOR ME
Step
Step
YES?

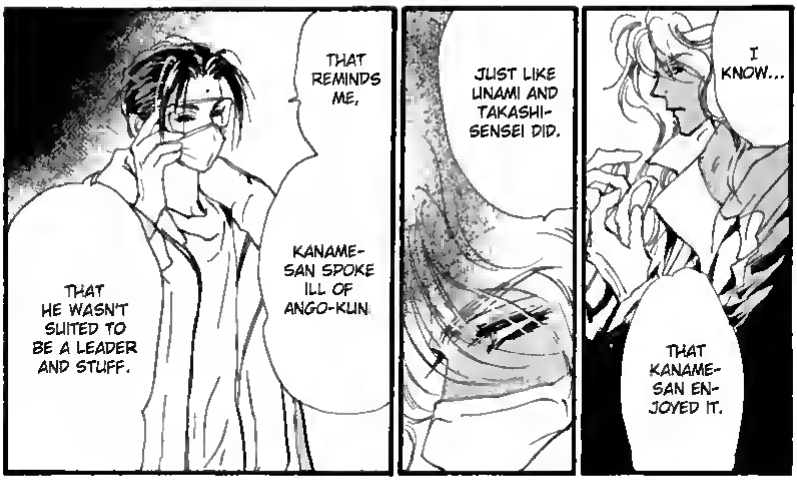
IF YOU HAPPEN TO MEET KANAME-SAN,
DON'T LET HIM NEAR ANGO.


MOZU-SAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN KIND TO US...
AND WE COULD RELY ON HIM...
It feels wrong
ARASHI,
MOST LIKELY.
JUST TO MAKE SURE,
ARE THAT MAN AND MOZU-SAN REALLY ONE AND THE SAME PERSON?
SO I'LL TELL YOU.
SEMIMARU IS THAT KIND OF PERSON,
Despite myself
Yahoo!

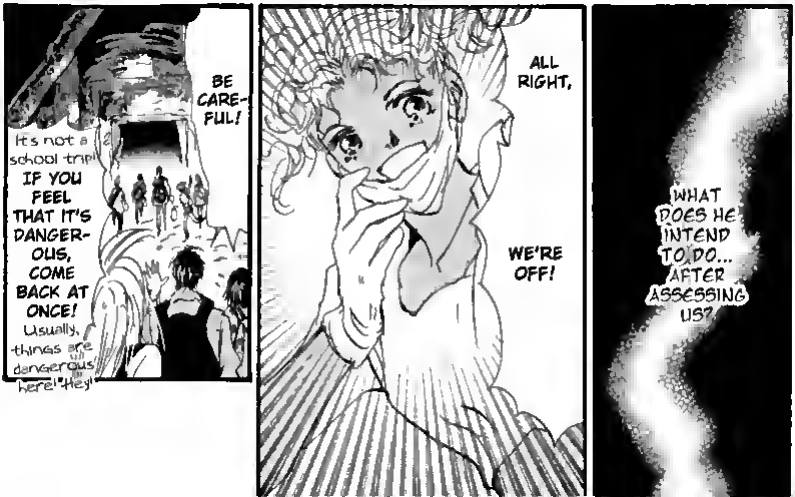
I UNDER-STAND, RYO-SAN.
DON'T— LET DOWN YOUR GUARD.
IS SOMEONE WHO KILLED A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELID.
THAT GUY...


THAT'S WHY HE'S STILL ATTACHED TO HIM.
DIDN'T MEET KANAME-SAN DURING THAT TEST.
ANGO...
YOU'RE AS WORRIED ABOUT ANGO-KUN AS EVER, AREN'T YOU?
Sigh

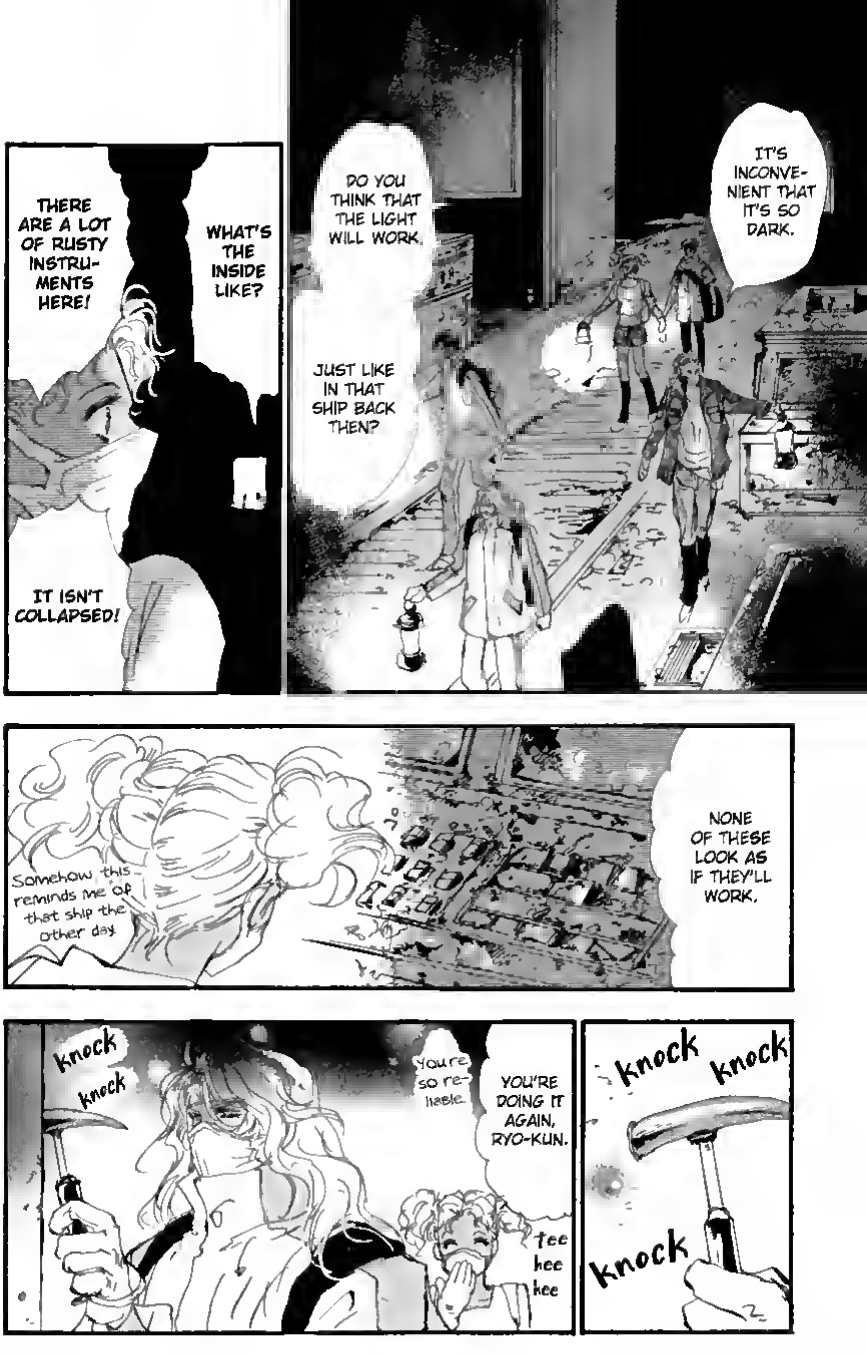
THAT'S DANGEROUS, ISN'T IT?


I KNOW...
THAT KANAME-SAN ENJOYED IT.
JUST LIKE UNAMI AND TAKASHI-SENSEI DID.
THAT REMINDS ME,
KANAME-SAN SPOKE ILL OF ANGO-KUN
THAT HE WASN'T SUITED TO BE A LEADER AND STUFF.

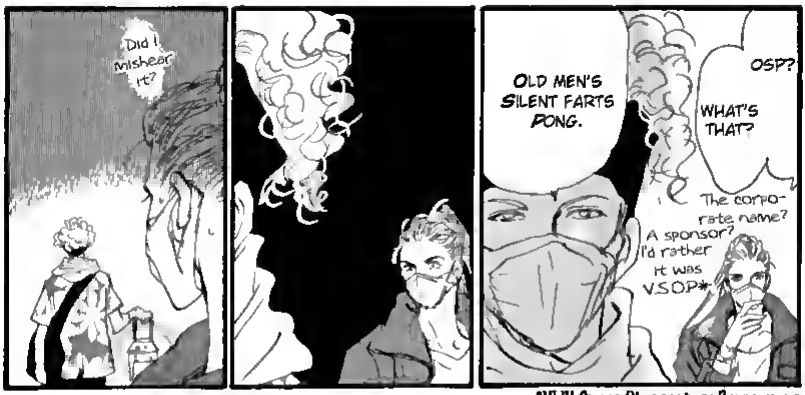
HE MUST HAVE WITNESSED YOU TWO BEING KICKED OUT.
Hah!
HE'S SECRETLY WATCHING US...
AND ASSESSING US AS HE PLEASES, JUST LIKE ALWAYS.


WHAT DOES HE INTEND TO DO... AFTER ASSESSING US?
ALL RIGHT,
WE'RE OFF!
BE CARE-FUL!
It's not a school trip! IF YOU FEEL THAT IT'S DANGER-OUS, COME BACK AT ONCE!
Usually, things are not dangerous here! Hey!

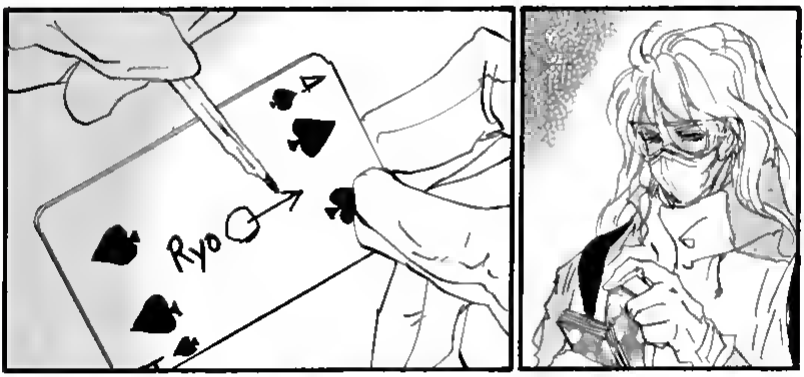
IF KANAME-SAN IS HERE,
I'LL DIG HIM UP FIRST.
I CAN'T ALLOW ANGO AND KANAME-SAN TO MEET.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN THEN.
crunch
AND ONCE I FIND HIM,
I'LL KILL HIM.

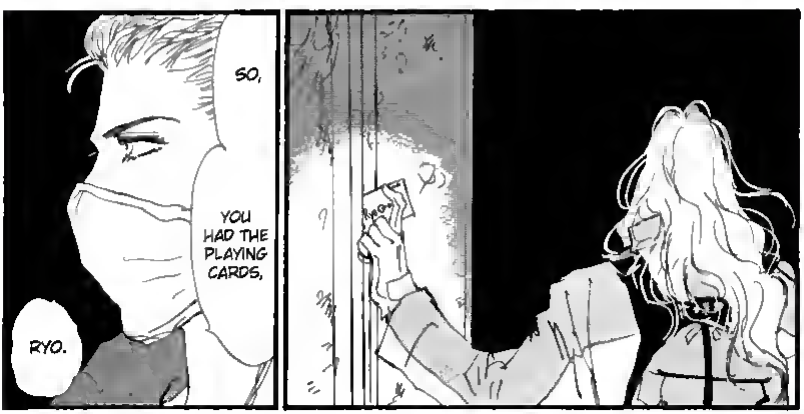

THERE ARE A LOT OF RUSTY INSTRUMENTS HERE!
WHAT'S THE INSIDE LIKE?
IT ISN'T COLLAPSED!
DO YOU THINK THAT THE LIGHT WILL WORK.
JUST LIKE IN THAT SHIP BACK THEN?
IT'S INCONVENIENT THAT IT'S SO DARK.
Somehow this reminds me of that ship the other day
NONE OF THESE LOOK AS IF THEY'LL WORK.
knock
knock
You're so reliable.
YOU'RE DOING IT AGAIN, RYO-KUN.
tee hee hee
knock
knock
knock

OVER HERE,
THERE'S A PASSAGE-WAY WITH ROOMS.
I can't see it very well though.
BUT SHOULD WE KEEP GOING, RYO-KUN?
OF COURSE
I DON'T KNOW.
I WONDER IF WHAT WE SEE IS REAL.
It's not a hallucination?
BUT I DON'T FEEL LIKE MY PERCEPTION HAS BEEN IN DISORDER SINCE WE LEFT THE OCEAN.
Ah, I found pencils
I wonder if they write.
I GUESS SO.
WE SHOULD MEET SOMEONE SOMEWHERE, HUH?
IF IT'S CONNECTED TO THE ROOM FROM YESTERDAY,
silence
Nobody's home?
HELLO!
IS...
SOMEONE HERE?!
OSP



*VLBI Space Observatory Programme

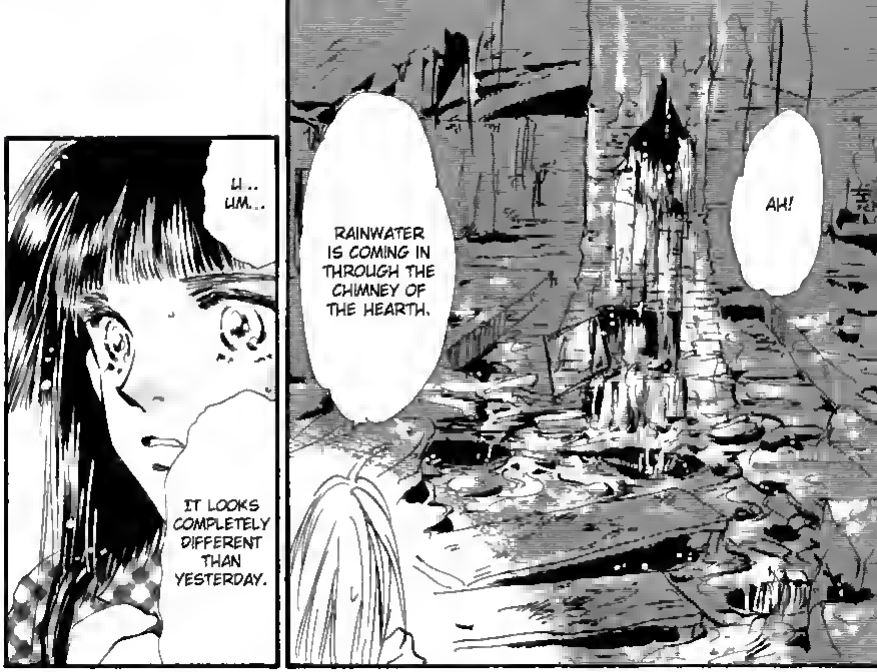


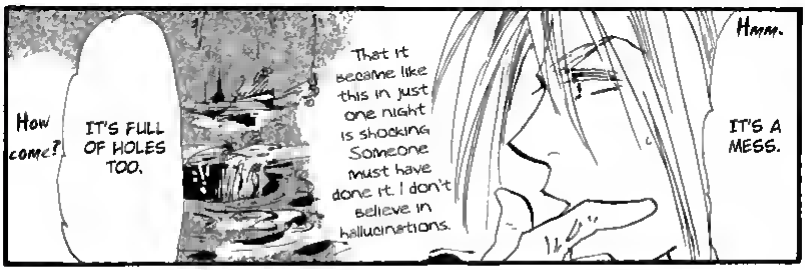


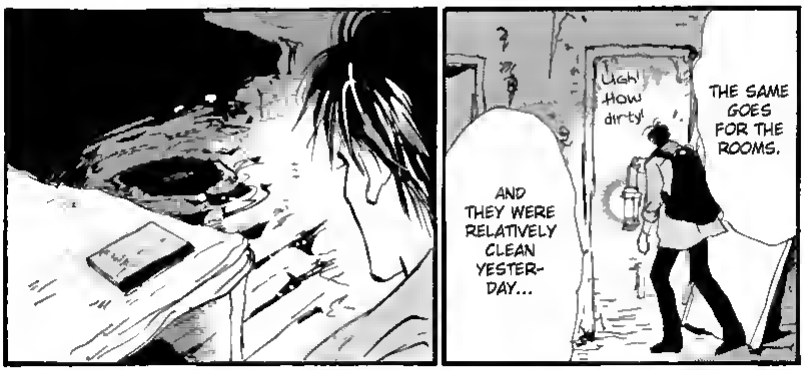
WELL.
HUH?
WHAT?
IS THAT WHY YOU CAME ALONG?
ARE YOU STILL WARY OF RYO-KUN?
BOTAN-SAN, BOTAN-SAN!
I WONDER HOW MANY OF THEM ARE MISSING.
LET'S GO.
HEY, SEMI-MARU,
WHAT'S THAT BUSI-NESS OF YOURS?
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT RYO-KUN, RIGHT?
I'm worried.
Damn.
I SHOULD HAVE GONE AFTER ALL.

WHERE DO YOU WANT ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU TO?
AH, ABOUT THAT.
WHEN WE WERE TALKING ABOUT EXCHANGE OF AIR, I HAD AN IDEA.
CAN WE CHECK OUT THAT STRANGE ROOM ONCE AGAIN?
I'd like to take a proper look around.
WE PRETTY MUCH LEFT ALL THE DOORS AJAR,
SO THE AIR SHOULD BE CLEAR BY NOW, DON'T YOU THINK?
Because it was kind of stuffy in there.
YEAH, I'LL TELL ANGO-SAN, THEN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL HIM EVERY SINGLE THING.
LET'S SET OFF JUST LIKE THAT.
He might be against it
NO WAY. WE HAVE TO MAKE CLEAR WHERE WE GO.
ANGO-SAN.
You're really serious. Damn serious. You're beyond help.
I'LL WAIT OUTSIDE.
I won't go inside.
SO HURRY UP AND GO.
Yes, sir!
COME BACK RIGHT AWAY.

NO.
WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO READ YOUR RIGHT HAND NOW?
While looking after the camp
tee hee
squish
IT'S DAMP...
I WAS RIGHT.
THE AIR IS QUITE DIFFERENT THAN IT WAS YESTERDAY.
tap
SEE,
tap
IT'S FLOODED!
WHOA! WHAT'S THIS?
HUH?


U.. UM...
IT LOOKS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THAN YESTERDAY.
RAINWATER IS COMING IN THROUGH THE CHIMNEY OF THE HEARTH.
AH!


How come?
IT'S FULL OF HOLES TOO.
That it became like this in just one night is shocking. Someone must have done it. I don't believe in hallucinations.
Hmm.
IT'S A MESS.

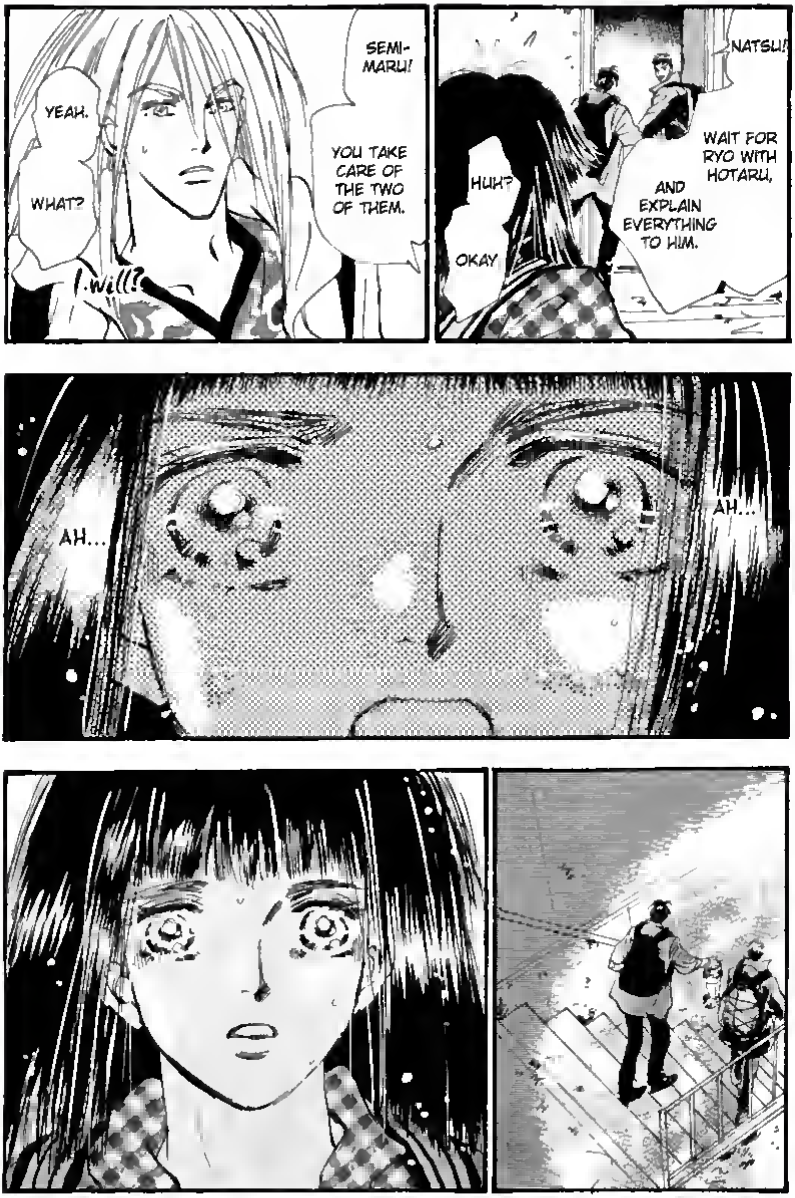

Ugh! How dirty!
THE SAME GOES FOR THE ROOMS.
AND THEY WERE RELATIVELY CLEAN YESTERDAY...

Hello!
Hello!
KURU-MI!
GUYS, WHERE ARE YOU?
RYUSEI-KUN!
HELLO!
Hello!
Hello!
DAMN IT!
ANSWER ME!
Hello!
Hello!

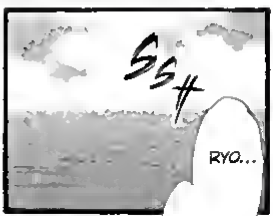
Yeah.
ARA-SHI!
dash
I'LL GO AND GET ANGO-SAN.
YES.
SOME-ONE CALLED "HELLO"
...
It's not a ghost, is it?
HEY,
DID YOU HEAR THAT, NATSU?
splish
splish
Whoa! What happened here?
YOU HEARD A VOICE?!
LET'S SEARCH FOR A PATH DOWN-STAIRS.
THERE MUST BE A PROPER PASSAGE SOMEWHERE.
IT WAS COMING FROM BELOW.
I DON'T KNOW FROM WHICH HOLE THOUGH.
Hello, hello! Can you hear me? Answer!
I DID, BUT I DON'T HEAR IT ANY-MORE.

A STAIR-CASE!
CLACK
TH-THIS DOOR.
WAS IT THERE YESTER-DAY?
I don't think so
It must have been there, but
I DON'T REMEM-BER IT.
ANGO-SAN!
I'D RATHER GO ON MY OWN.
NO, YOU'D SLOW ME DOWN.
I'LL COME WITH YOU.
ANGO-SAN,
YOU WAIT OUTSIDE.
I'LL GO AND CHECK IT OUT.
ALL RIGHT.

I WILL COME WITH YOU.
I WON'T SLOW YOU DOWN.
I'LL COME TOO.
TH-
THEN I'LL...
WHAT IF I SLOW THEM DOWN?!
BUT...
AH...
AH...
THEN...

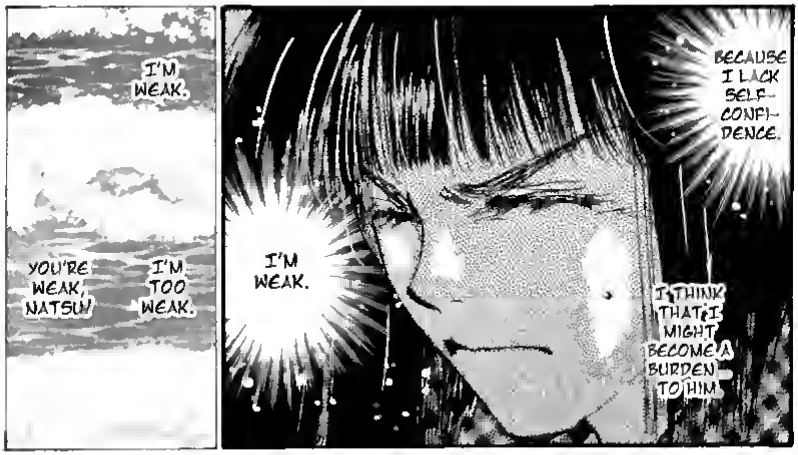

SEMI-MARU!
YOU TAKE CARE OF THE TWO OF THEM.
WHAT?
YEAH.
I-Will!?
NATSU!!
WAIT FOR RYO WITH HOTARU,
AND EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO HIM.
HUH?
OKAY
AH...
AH...

WHY...
COULDN'T I TAKE THE FIRST STEP?

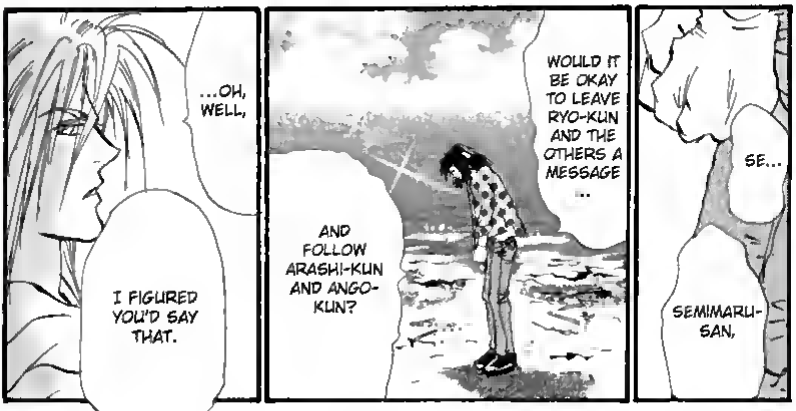

SSH
RYO...

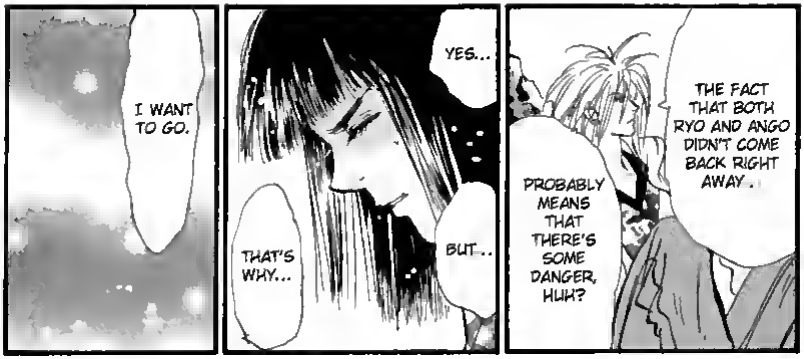
AND THE OTHERS ARE LATE.
I'M SURE THEY'RE TAKING THEIR TIME TO LOOK AROUND.
I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT.

WHY CAN'T I CLING TO HIM—.
WHEREVER HE GOES JUST LIKE MATSURI-CHAN DOES?


I'M WEAK.
YOU'RE WEAK, NATSU
I'M TOO WEAK.
I'M WEAK.
BECAUSE I LACK SELF-CONFI-DENCE.
I THINK THAT I MIGHT BECOME A BURDEN TO HIM

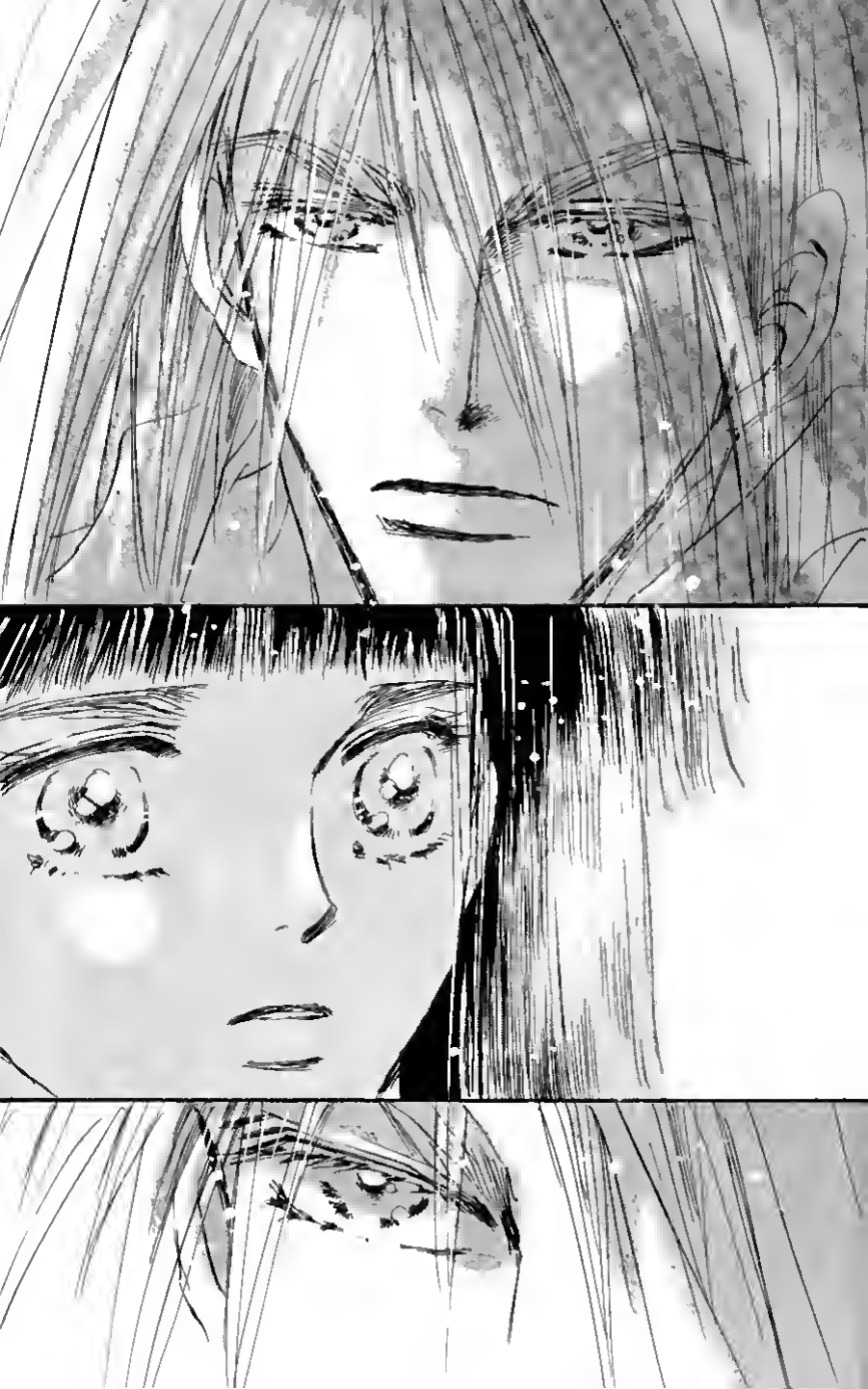
I'M WEAK-WILLED


...OH, WELL,
I FIGURED YOU'D SAY THAT.
AND FOLLOW ARASHI-KUN AND ANGO-KUN?
WOULD IT BE OKAY TO LEAVE RYO-KUN AND THE OTHERS A MESSAGE ...
SE...
SEMIMARU-SAN,


I WANT TO GO.
YES...
BUT...
THAT'S WHY...
THE FACT THAT BOTH RYO AND ANGO DIDN'T COME BACK RIGHT AWAY...
PROBABLY MEANS THAT THERE'S SOME DANGER, HUH?

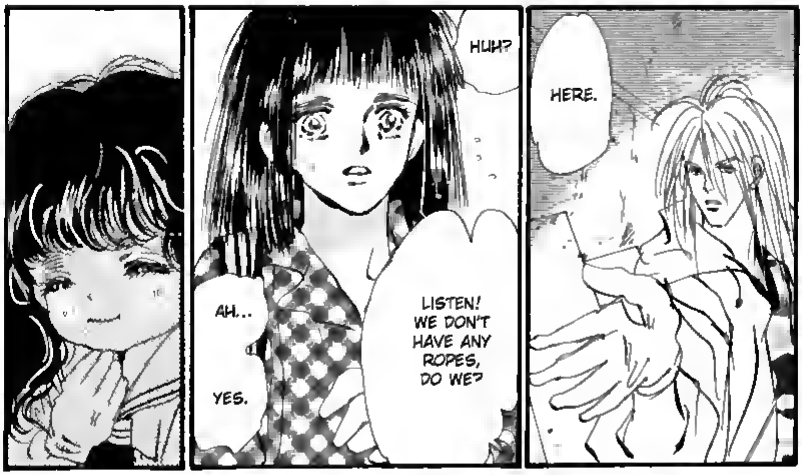
TO GO.
I WANT...

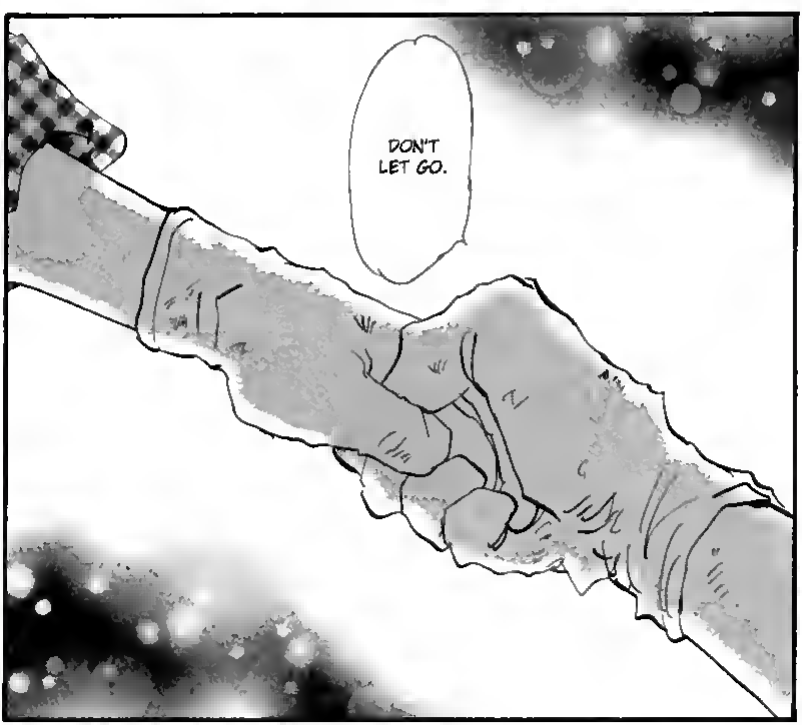
DOES ARASHI MEAN THAT MUCH TO YOU?



U... M...
SEMI-MARU-SAN...?
AH,
ALL RIGHT, I GET IT.
LET'S LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR RYO.
Let's go!
ANGO ARASHI
ANGO ARASHI
+ SEMIMARU HOTARU NATSU!

YES ..
I'M SORRY.
THANK YOU, SEMIMARU-SAN.
I DON'T KNOW.
ANGO WILL BE ANGRY FOR SURE.
hee hee hee
IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT ALL MY LIFE.
IF I DON'T ACT, I'LL ONLY REGRET IT LATER.
I'M SURE THERE IS A WAY TO LIVE WITHOUT REGRETS.
BUT THAT'S OVER NOW





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7Seeds

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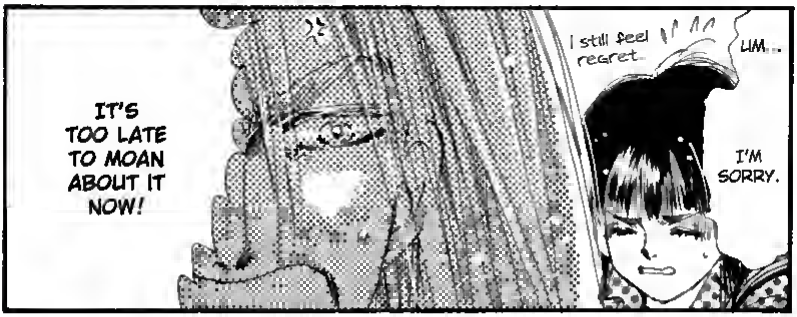
Ocean Chapter 6
[– When –]

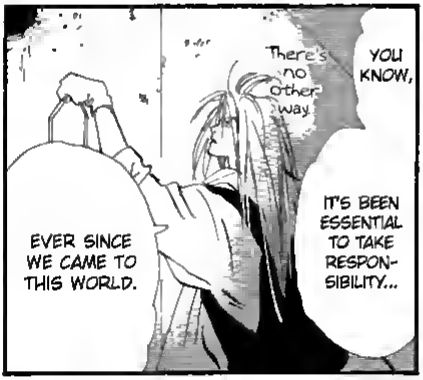
SEMIMARU-SAN...
IS DIFFERENT THAN USUAL...
BUT PLEASE WALK A LITTLE SLOWER.
YEAH ..
I MIGHT STUMBLE.
tap tap
YES, MA'AM!
hee hee hee
HE'S KIND OF RELIABLE, ISN'T HE?

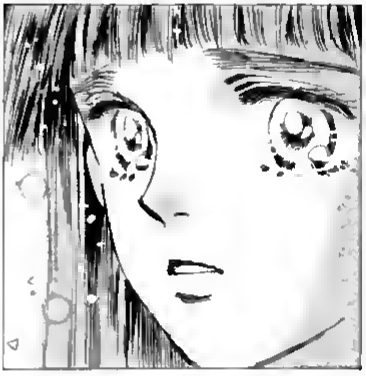
WOULD IT HAVE BEEN BETTER TO GO ON MY OWN!?
EVEN THOUGH I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO WANTED TO FOLLOW ARASHI-KUN!
TO THINK THAT EVERYONE CAME WITH ME...
I DRAGGED HOTARU-CHAN INTO THIS TOO.
SHE'S COMING TOO, EVEN THOUGH IT COULD BE DANGEROUS.
OH... UM... HOTARU-CHAN, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
SORRY.
I'M SORRY...
I'M FINE.
Huh? What about?


IT'S TOO LATE TO MOAN ABOUT IT NOW!
I still feel regret.
UM...
I'M SORRY.

THIS IS STILL BETTER THAN WORRYING ABOUT YOU OUTSIDE BECAUSE YOU WENT OFF JUST LIKE THAT!
IT'S NOT LIKE I COULD HAVE ALLOWED YOU TO GO ALONE!

I THINK IT'S BETTER TO GO EVERYWHERE TOGETHER.
HE'S RIGHT.
ON THE CONTRARY, I'D HAVE BEEN MORE SCARED IF YOU'D LEFT ME BEHIND.

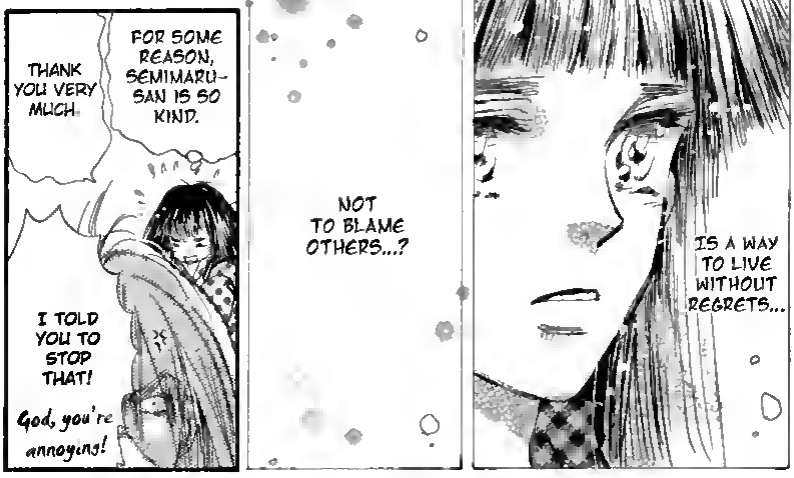

There's no other way.
YOU KNOW,
IT'S BEEN ESSENTIAL TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY...
EVER SINCE WE CAME TO THIS WORLD.

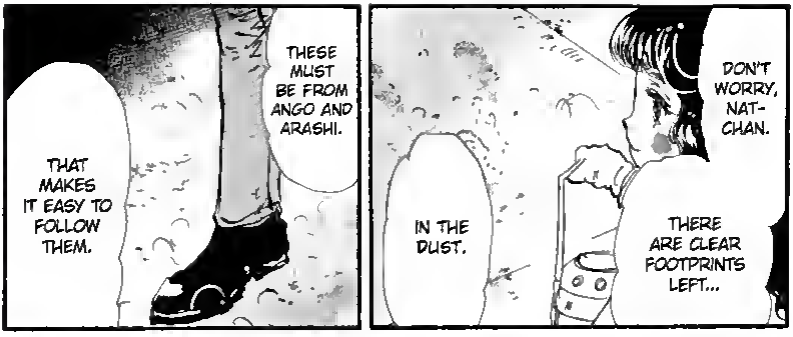


THAT WAY, NO ONE CAN BLAME SOMEONE ELSE...
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS.

ANGO, AS WELL AS ARASHI,
RYO,
AND THE OTHERS...
GO WHERE THEY WANT TO GO, TOO.

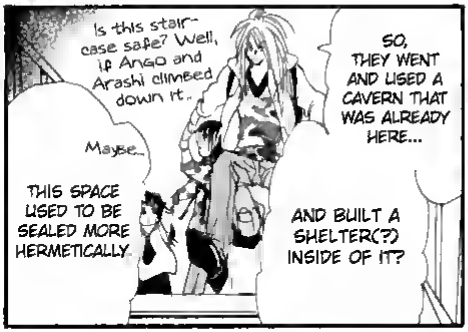
THAT'S WHY...
I'M ACTING OF MY OWN WILL TOO!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M KEEPING YOU COMPANY UNWILLINGLY.
GOT IT?
OH MAN,
DON'T MAKE ME SAY UNNECESSARY THINGS.
YOU MIGHT FIND OUT THAT I ACTUALLY HAVE BRAINS IN MY HEAD!
THERE MUST BE SOME INTERESTING STUFF TO BE FOUND HERE AS WELL!
JUST LIKE IN THAT SHIP THE OTHER DAY.
I didn't take anything then, though
That's why I'm here!
hee hee hee
THE SAME GOES FOR ME


THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
FOR SOME REASON, SEMIMARU-SAN IS SO KIND.
I TOLD YOU TO STOP THAT!
God, you're annoying!
NOT TO BLAME OTHERS...?
IS A WAY TO LIVE WITHOUT REGRETS...

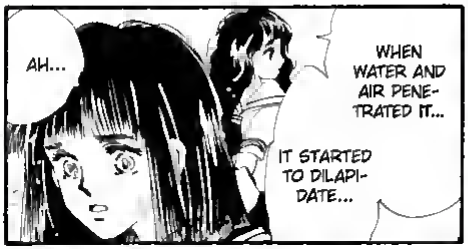

THESE MUST BE FROM ANGO AND ARASHI.
THAT MAKES IT EASY TO FOLLOW THEM.
DON'T WORRY, NAT-CHAN.
IN THE DUST.
THERE ARE CLEAR FOOTPRINTS LEFT...

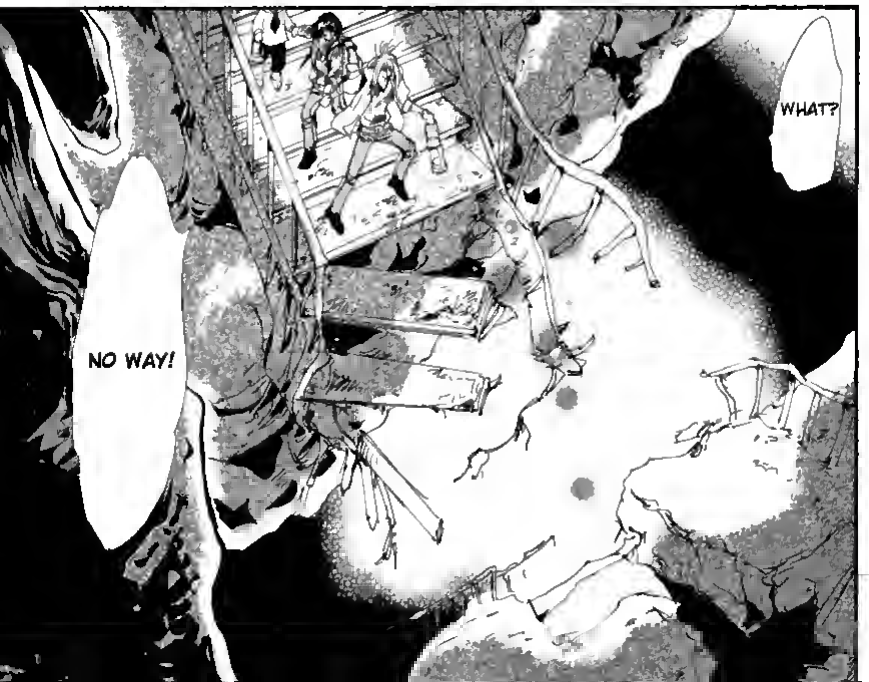
THAT'S WHY WE'LL RUN INTO THE OTHERS IN NO TIME.
I'm sure it's smaller than that ship back then!
ANY-WAY,
THIS FACILITY CAN'T BE THAT LARGE, RIGHT?

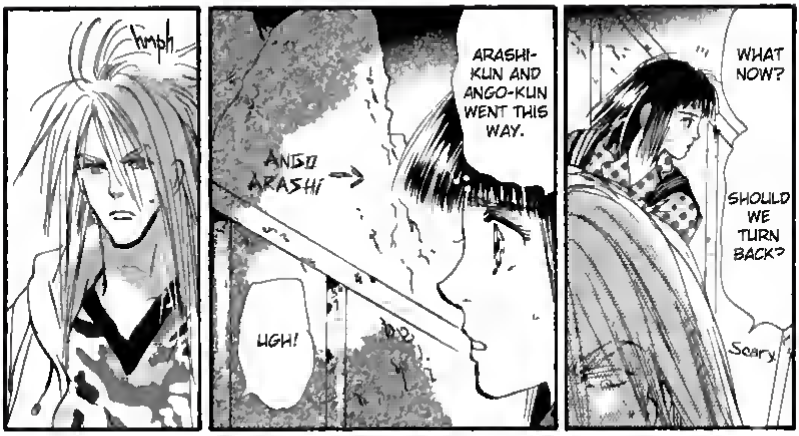
Sorry it's so large.
What the heck?
..OR SO I THOUGHT
IT IS LARGE.


Is this stair-case safe? Well, if Ango and Arashi climbed down it..
Maybe..
THIS SPACE USED TO BE SEALED MORE HERMETICALLY
SO, THEY WENT AND USED A CAVERN THAT WAS ALREADY HERE...
AND BUILT A SHELTER(?) INSIDE OF IT?

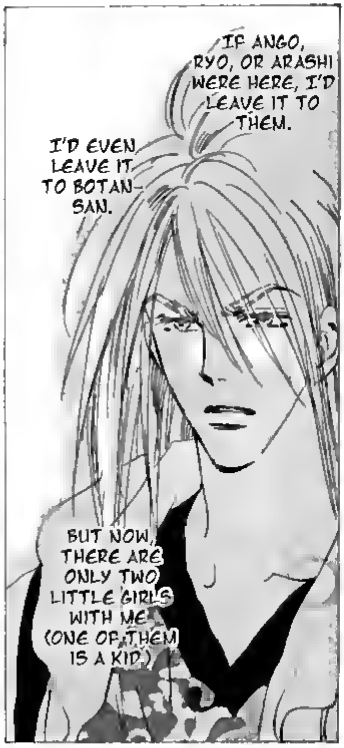
THERE'S WATER FLOW-ING DOWN.
Light is com-ing in too
Wah!
I'M SURE THIS IS A NATURAL CAVERN.


AH...
WHEN WATER AND AIR PENE-TRATED IT...
IT STARTED TO DILAPI-DATE...


WHAT?
NO WAY!


hmph
ANGO
ARASHI
ARASHI-KUN AND ANGO-KUN WENT THIS WAY.
UGH!
WHAT NOW?
SHOULD WE TURN BACK?
Scary

SEMI-MARU-SAN!
I'M A MAN, DAMN IT!
I HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT!
ALL RIGHT, WAIT HERE!
I'LL SHOW YOU MY WAY OF LIFE!


IF ANGO, RYO, OR ARASHI WERE HERE, I'D LEAVE IT TO THEM.
I'D EVEN LEAVE IT TO BOTAN-SAN.
BUT NOW, THERE ARE ONLY TWO LITTLE GIRLS WITH ME. (ONE OF THEM IS A KID.)

Flop!
FUH.
HAH.
The lamp is in the way.
B-
STEP WHERE...
BE CARE-FUL.
Ah!
THERE ARE FOOT-PRINTS.
ALL RIGHT
tok
Ah!
OKAY.
I'LL CATCH YOU HERE,
SO JUMP DOWN.
FIRST YOU, HOTARU!
Put down the lamp

GRAB MY HAND!
OKAY, COME!
DON'T LOOK DOWN!
hep hep
YES.
DID YOU GET OVER THERE?
OKAY.
GOT YOU!
NEXT IS HEAVY-WEIGHT NATSU.
COME ON!

Tremble
I ALWAYS THOUGHT...
THAT I SHOULD HAVE DONE MORE SPORTS.
STAND OVER THERE, JUST THE WAY HOTARU DID.
ARASHI-KUN CLIMBED DOWN HERE.
huff
huff
Uh!
SEMIMARU-SAN AND HOTARU-CHAN WERE ABLE TO GET DOWN THERE TOO.
FORGET FOR NOW THAT YOU'RE LAME.
PICTURE YOURSELF AS A BAL-LERINA.
NAT-CHAN, DON'T WORRY.
IT'S UN-EXPECTEDLY STABLE.
TAKE YOUR TIME!
GRAB MY HAND!
NEVER MIND THAT NOW.
A BAL-LERINA?
HURRY UP AND COME!
To hear that from your mouth...
Pfft

squeeze

STOP SQUIRMING!
LEAVE IT TO ME!
UM.
T-TOO CLOSE.
HE'S HOLDING ME TOO TIGHTLY!
AH.
ALL RIGHT!
I'LL LET GO NOW.
JUST LIKE HOTARU DID IT.
It's not over yet
THERE.
I'LL HOLD YOU WHILE YOU CRAWL OVER.

NATSU,
LET'S GO!
You can't be clumsy forever!
HERE,
MY HAND.

I can do anything.
hee hee hee
I did it!
I GOT THEM!
hah hah
Are you okay?

Sanmaru-san you were like Paul Newman
Who's that again? Is he cooler than me?
You are cool!!

Thump

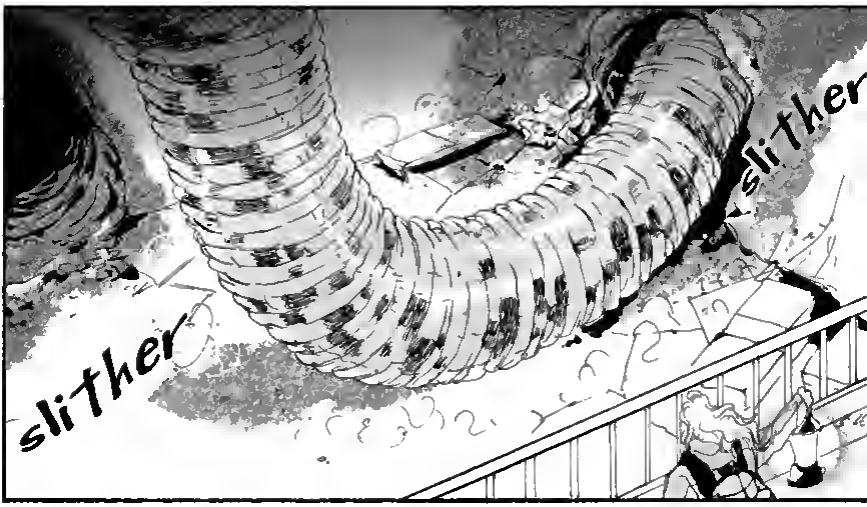
AROUND SEMIMARU-SAN BEFORE...
I'VE NEVER BEEN...
THIS SELF-CONSCIOUS...
WHY?
Ah- Th Thank you
THAT HE HUGGED ME...
I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING...
Did they break it?
NO KIDDING!
Apparently, Arashi-kun and Aniao-kun climbed down it
THE STAIRCASE IS BROKEN OFF AGAIN?

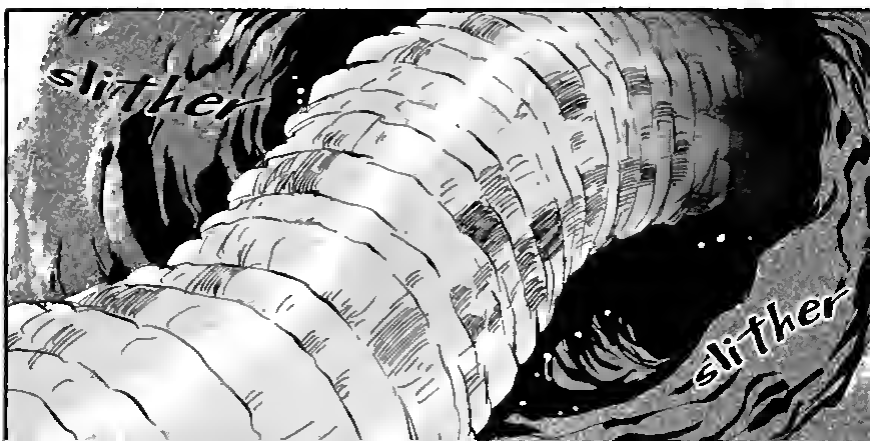
knock
knock
knock
SAY, SHOULDN'T WE GO BACK SOON?
THE OTHERS WILL BE WORRIED.
How boring
Do you think we could use the sofas and tables? They're heavy, huh?
THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL TO BE FOUND
There's nobody here, either
THERE ARE...
SEVERAL NORMAL ROOMS HERE.
Normal in a retro kind of way.
AH.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, CHIMAKI?
WE STILL HAVEN'T ACCOMPLISHED ANYTHING YET.
IF YOU WANT TO GO BACK, THEN GO.

WAH!
WHAT'S THIS?
HALF OF IT IS SMASHED, THOUGH.
IT'S A MODEL.
Whoa!
PROBABLY... OF THIS FACILITY.
IT LOOKS LIKE IT.
IS THE ROOM AT THE TOP...
THAT ROOM WITH THE HEARTH..?
THIS IS THE DOCK WHERE WE CAME IN...
wipe
wipe
IT'S ALL DUSTY.

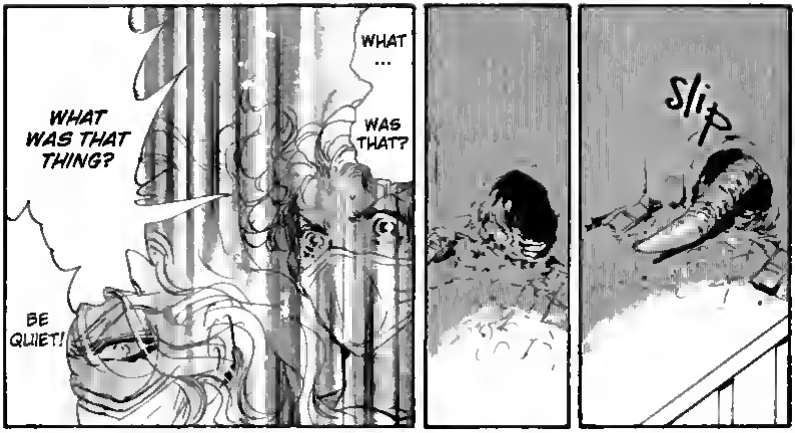
WHAT ARE THESE TUNNELS FURTHER BELOW THAT LEAD AWAY FROM IT?
THEY CONNECT IT WITH SOMETHING.
THEY POINT EASTWARDS FROM THE ISLAND.
THEY RUN PARALLEL TO THE MAIN-LAND.
Don't they?
MAYBE THERE'S AN ISLAND OR SOMETHING AT THE OTHER END.
Unfor-tunately, it was destroyed
I'LL MAKE A SKETCH, JUST IN CASE.
That's so like you, Chimaki
ANY-WAY.
I WON-DER ..
WHERE THE OTHERS COULD HAVE BEEN WANDE-RING AROUND FOR TWO WHOLE DAYS.
Even if it's large
IS THIS ALL THERE IS TO THIS FACILITY?
DID THEY FOLLOW THESE UNDER-GROUND TUNNELS, AND GO SOME-WHERE?
WITH-OUT THEIR STUFF?
SAY,
It looks different than the collapsed ones
WHAT'S THIS HOLE?
DO YOU THINK WE COULD GO THROUGH IT?
THERE ARE SEVERAL OF THEM AROUND...
slither

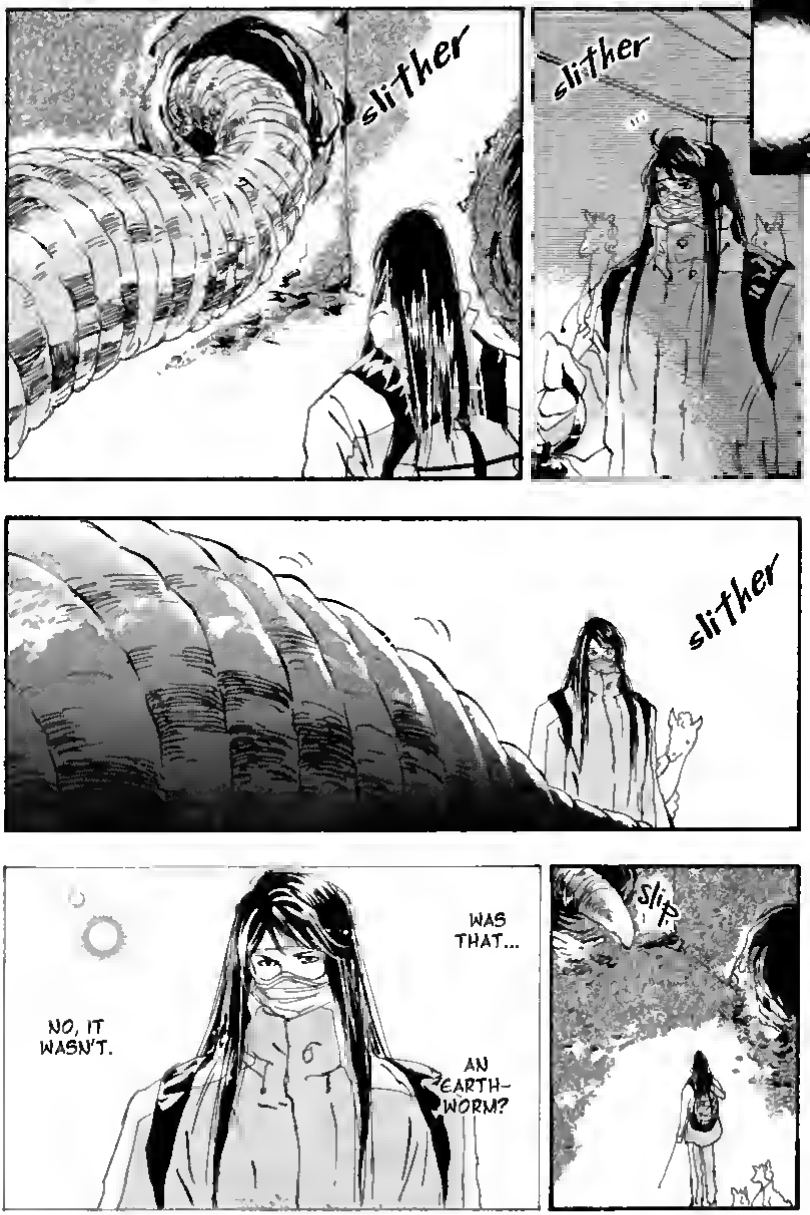
slither
slither

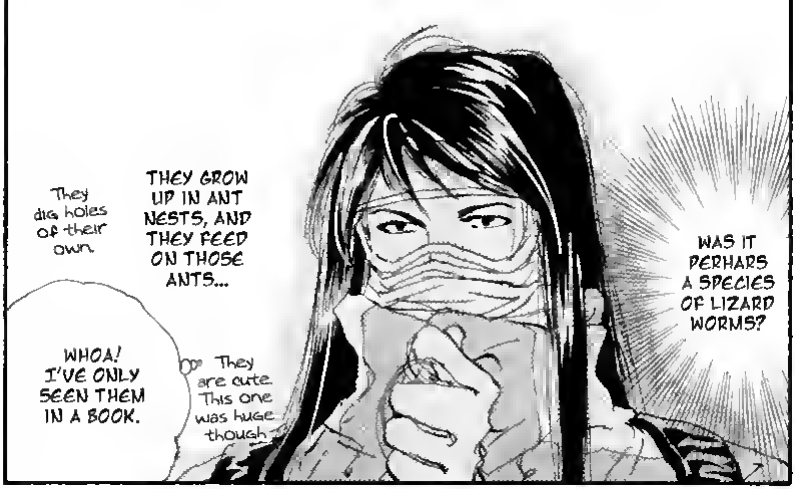

slither
slither

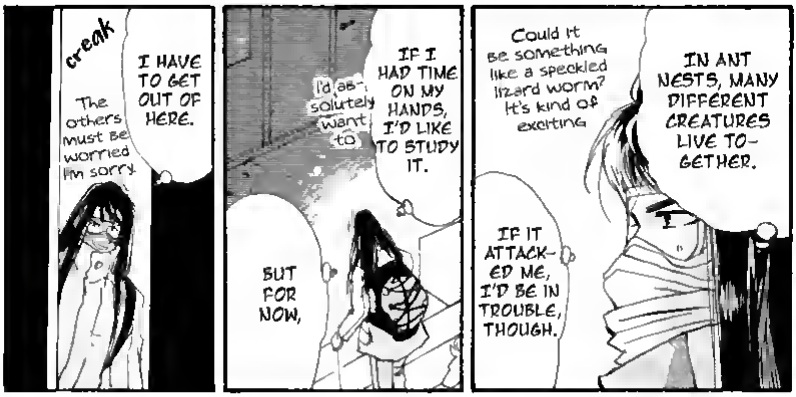

slither
slither

SLITHER
SLITHER


WHAT ...
WAS THAT?
WHAT WAS THAT THING?
BE QUIET!
slip


slither
slither
slither
WAS THAT...
NO, IT WASN'T.
AN EARTH-WORM?
slip


They dig holes of their own.
THEY GROW UP IN ANT NESTS, AND THEY FEED ON THOSE ANTS...
WHOA! I'VE ONLY SEEN THEM IN A BOOK.
They are cute. This one was huge though.
WAS IT PERHAPS A SPECIES OF LIZARD WORMS?


creak
The others must be worried. I'm sorry.
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.
I'd abs- solutely want to.
IF I HAD TIME ON MY HANDS, I'D LIKE TO STUDY IT.
BUT FOR NOW,
Could it be something like a speckled lizard worm? It's kind of exciting.
IF IT ATTACK-ED ME, I'D BE IN TROUBLE, THOUGH.
IN ANT NESTS, MANY DIFFERENT CREATURES LIVE TO-GETHER.

Not that it matters.
IS IT A RESEARCH FACILITY OR SOME-THING...?
WHAT IS...
THIS PLACE?

I can't hear voices anymore either
WE DIDN'T RUN INTO ANYBODY.
IT'S FULL OF HOLES.

WHERE IS THE EXIT!?

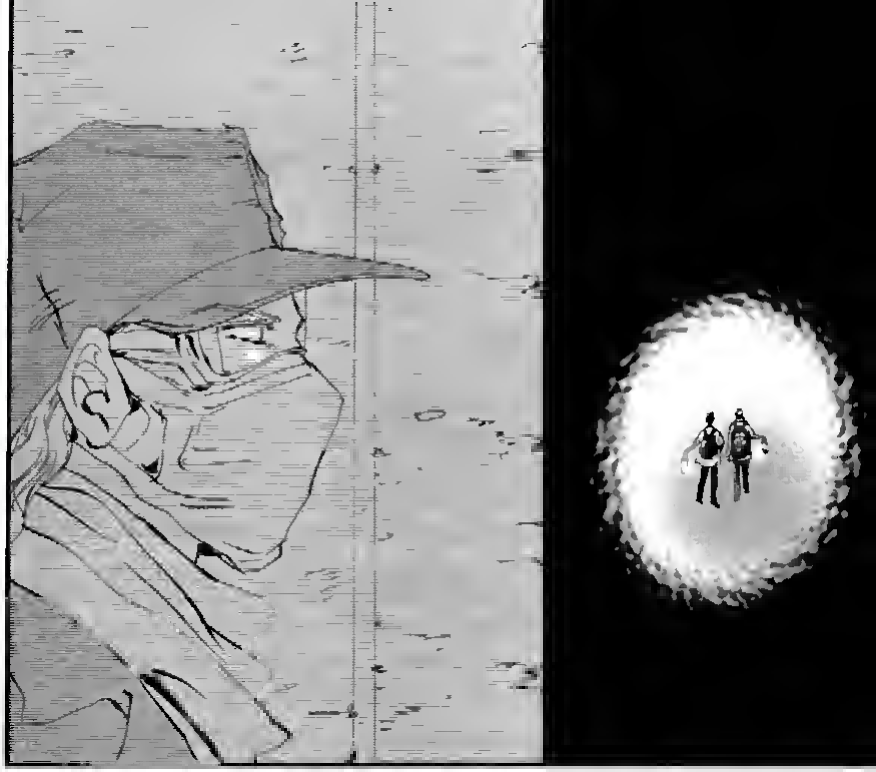
WE'D BE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE.
IF WE LOST OUR WAY INSIDE THERE,

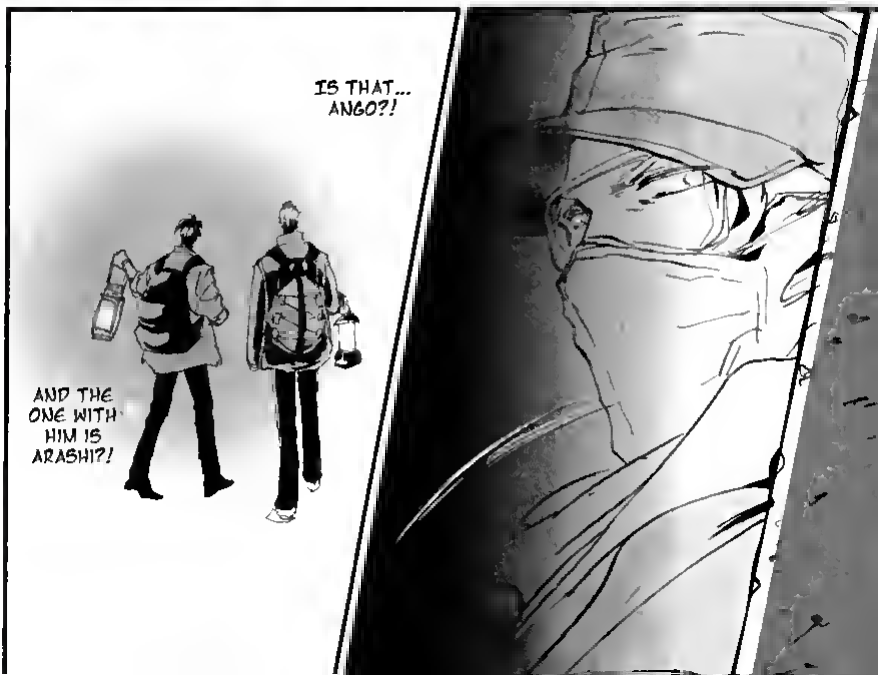
AND I TOLD YOU BEFORE...
AND THAT I WOULDN'T LEAVE ANYONE ALONE, EITHER.
THAT I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE ALONE,

NO, NOT REALLY.
IT'S BECAUSE IT'D BE DANGEROUS ON YOUR OWN.

ARASHI,
WHY DID YOU COME ALONG?
You were talking, right?
DID RYO SAY SOMETHING TO YOU?

OR THE OTHERS FROM MY TEAM...?
HE WAS ADAMANT ABOUT COMING WITH ME...
BUT WHAT IF WE MEET THE GUYS FROM TEAM AUTUMN,
AND TELL ME TO GET LOST.
THEY'D PROBABLY REPROACH ME AGAIN,
I DON'T...
WANT ARASHI TO FIND OUT ABOUT IT...
Hello! Is anybody here?



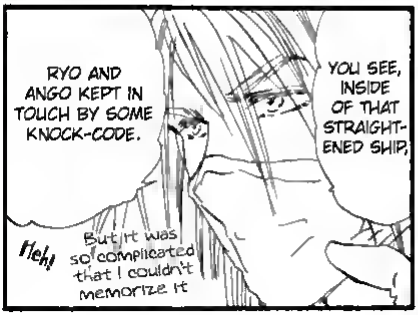

IS THAT... ANGO?!
AND THE ONE WITH HIM IS ARASHI?!

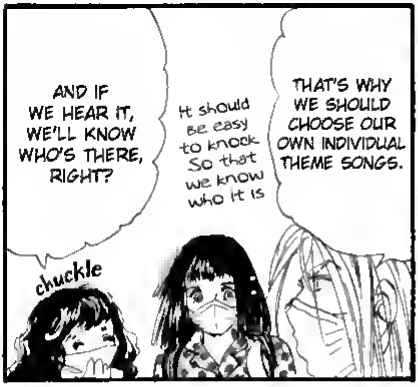
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REST OF TEAM SUMMER B?!
ANGO,
ARE YOU PLOTTING SOMETHING?
DO YOU INTEND TO KILL THEM ALL?
IS THIS A HALLUCINATION?!
OR AM I MISTAKEN?!
WHY ARE THEY HERE?!
ONLY THE TWO OF THEM?
HOW?!
WHERE IS RYO?
IF...
HE TRIES TO DO SOMETHING TO ARASHI...

THIS COULD TAKE SOME TIME.
This looks like a bench
LET'S TAKE A SHORT BREAK.

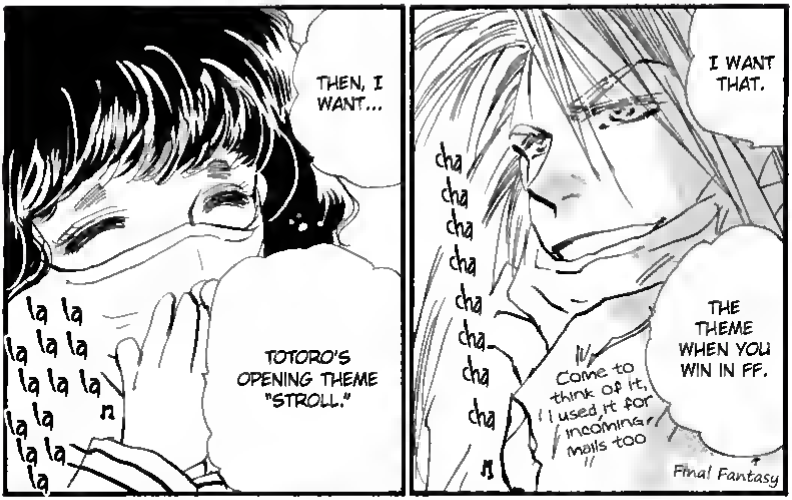
THE AIR HAS GOTTEN STALE.
WE SHOULD WEAR OUR MASKS.

WE ENDED UP AT SOME LARGE PLACE AGAIN.
What's with this place?


RYO AND ANGO KEPT IN TOUCH BY SOME KNOCK-CODE.
YOU SEE, INSIDE OF THAT STRAIGHT-ENED SHIP,
Fleh!
But it was so complicated that I couldn't memorize it

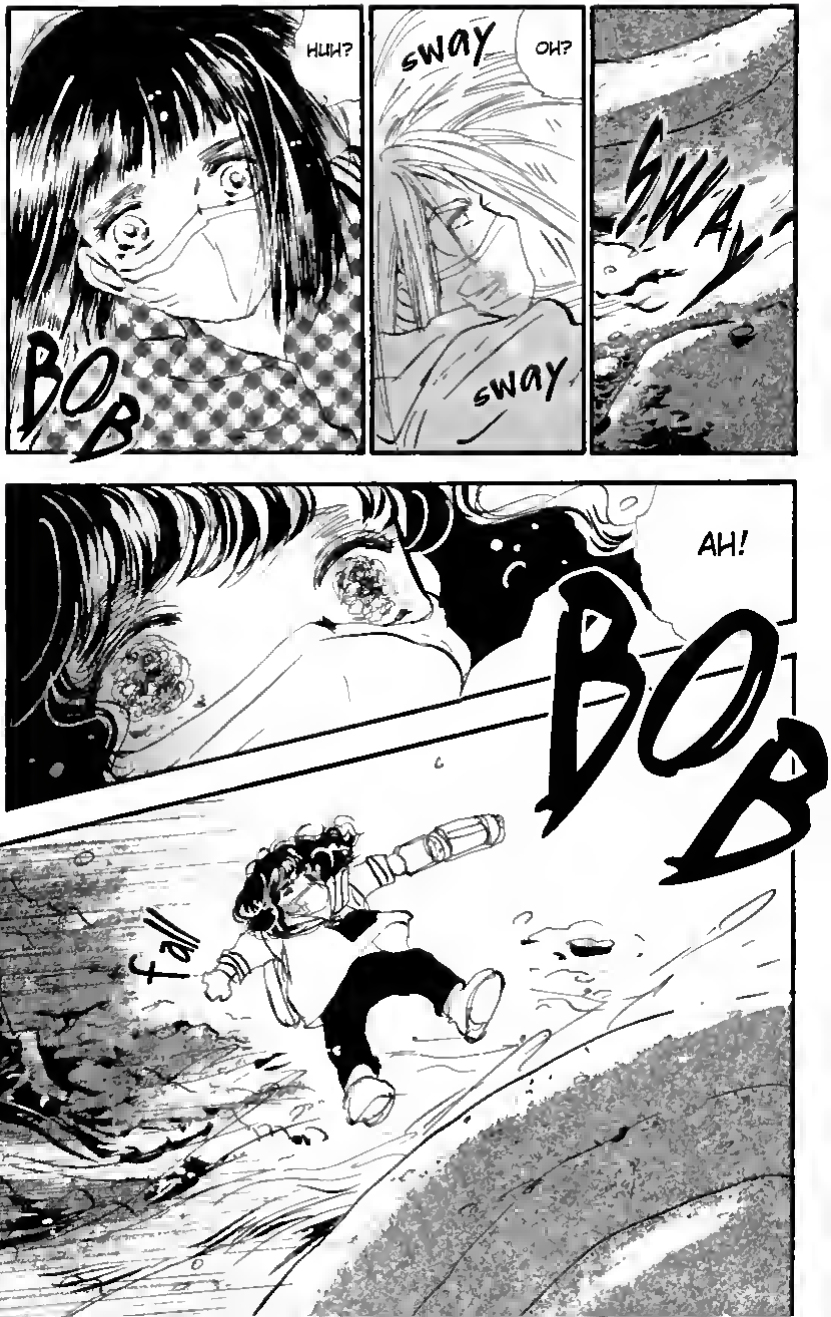

AND IF WE HEAR IT, WE'LL KNOW WHO'S THERE, RIGHT?
It should be easy to knock So that we know who it is
THAT'S WHY WE SHOULD CHOOSE OUR OWN INDIVIDUAL THEME SONGS.
chuckle

WELL.
THIS DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AS EASY AS I THOUGHT.
I was a little too optimistic about it
SHOULD WE AGREE UPON SOME ACOUSTIC SIGNAL...
IN CASE WE BECOME SEPARATED, INADVER-TENTLY?
AN ACOUSTIC SIGNAL?


THEN, I WANT...
la la la la la la la la la la la
TOTORO'S OPENING THEME "STROLL."
I WANT THAT.
cha cha cha cha cha cha cha cha cha
Come to think of it, I used it for incoming mails too
THE THEME WHEN YOU WIN IN FF.
Final Fantasy

*JAPANESE CHILDREN'S SONG

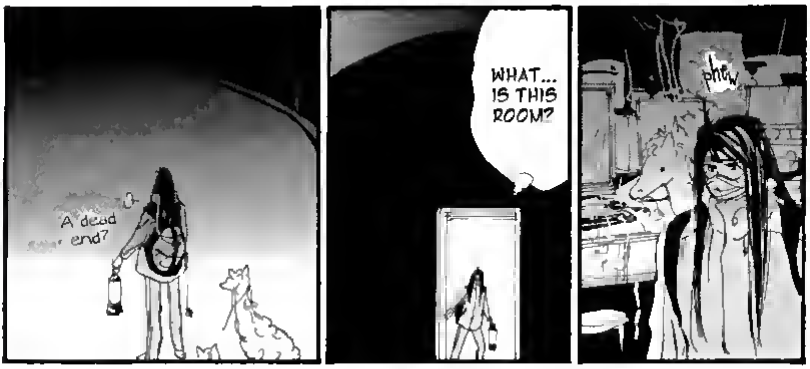
*IT'S A PLAY ON WORDS. SEMIMARU CONFUSES "OISHII" WHICH MEANS "TASTY" WITH "OISHI" WHICH MEANS "TO HUNT"


HUH?
BOB
sway
OH?
sway
SWAY
AH!
BOB
fall

whoa
bob
bob
HOTARU-CHAN!
WHAT THE HECK?!
WHOOSH
HOTARU-CHAN!
rustle
rustle
rustle
Huh? Wait for me.
I'M FINE.
Ow My butt is wet.
DON'T WORRY.

EEKI

Ah!
HOTARU!
HOTARU-CHAN!
WHOOSH


A dead end?
WHAT... IS THIS ROOM?
phew

FLASH
Do you want to play a disk?
What disk do you want to play?

Rain Over Paradise
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Rain Over Paradise
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Rain Over Paradise
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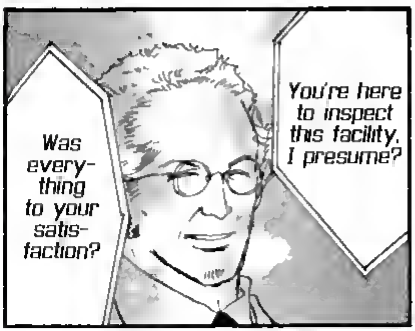
WELCOME,
HE SAYS?
WHO IS THIS?!
KAGI...
JIMA...?
Welcome.
EEK!

Out of the blue.
WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
Who's this?
Ladies and Gentlemen. welcome.
Welcome to Kagijima
Welcome
Welcome to you, our sponsors.
ARASHI,
I HEAR A VOICE
THE SAME MAN IN SEVERAL PLACES AT ONCE...

I'm Director Furuhashi
Welcome.

Thank you for coming


You're here to inspect this facility, I presume?
Was everything to your satisfaction?

But inside its massive rock base, a natural cavern spreads out.
Originally, this was a small rocky island without any vegetation.
To make proper use of it,
we take pride in having built this extraordinary facility.
UM...
EXCUSE ME...
All of this was possible thanks to the kind support of you, our sponsors.
WHAT?
I CAN'T TALK TO HIM?
How embarrassing

LIM,
You startled me
ANGO-SAN
THAT'S A PROJECTION.
A PRO-JECTION?
LIKE ON TELE-VISION?
IT'S A 3D VERSION.
3D?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, OLD MAN?!
A staff of 50 volun-teers,
we will live here starting now.
Whether it'll take several years... or decades.
We don't know for how long.
This whacky old Man
Is the power on?!
WHAT'S THIS?
WHY DID HE POP UP ALL OF A SUDDEN?
TO THE PEOPLE WHO FINANCED BUILDING THIS PLACE.
IT'S A DOCUMEN-TARY TO EXPLAIN THINGS...
What?

This Kagijima here,
will become the key to the "Open Sado Project."

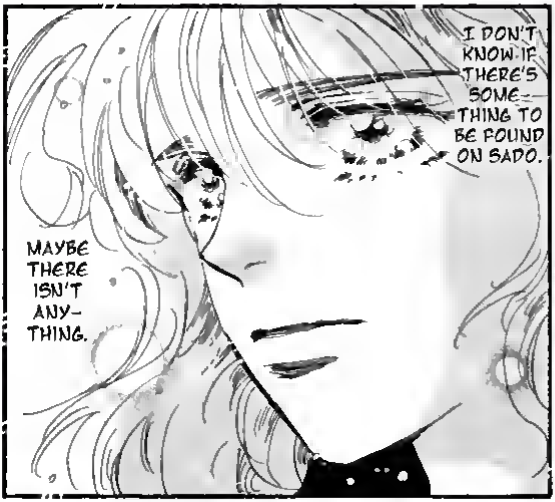
AH...
Open Sado Pro-ject
THAT'S OSP.

Are they all into SM?
SADO AS IN SADO-MASO?
...I GUESS NOT.

OPEN?
Sado?

SADO ISLAND...?

EVEN IF THIS IS THE JAPANESE SEA,
WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT'S LOCATED.
...SAY, HIBARI-CHAN,
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FIND SADO ISLAND?
step
crunch
trudge
trudge
Jimmy
woof
YOU CAN SEE IT.
YES, IF THE WEATHER IS FINE.
When I was here before,
I think I didn't see it
Really?
How mean.
phew
AH! WHY, YOU CAN SEE IT?
You're so ignorant
YOU CAN SEE IT FROM THE MAIN ISLAND.

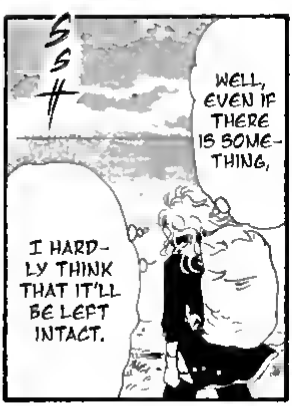

I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S SOME-THING TO BE FOUND ON SADO.
MAYBE THERE ISN'T ANY-THING.

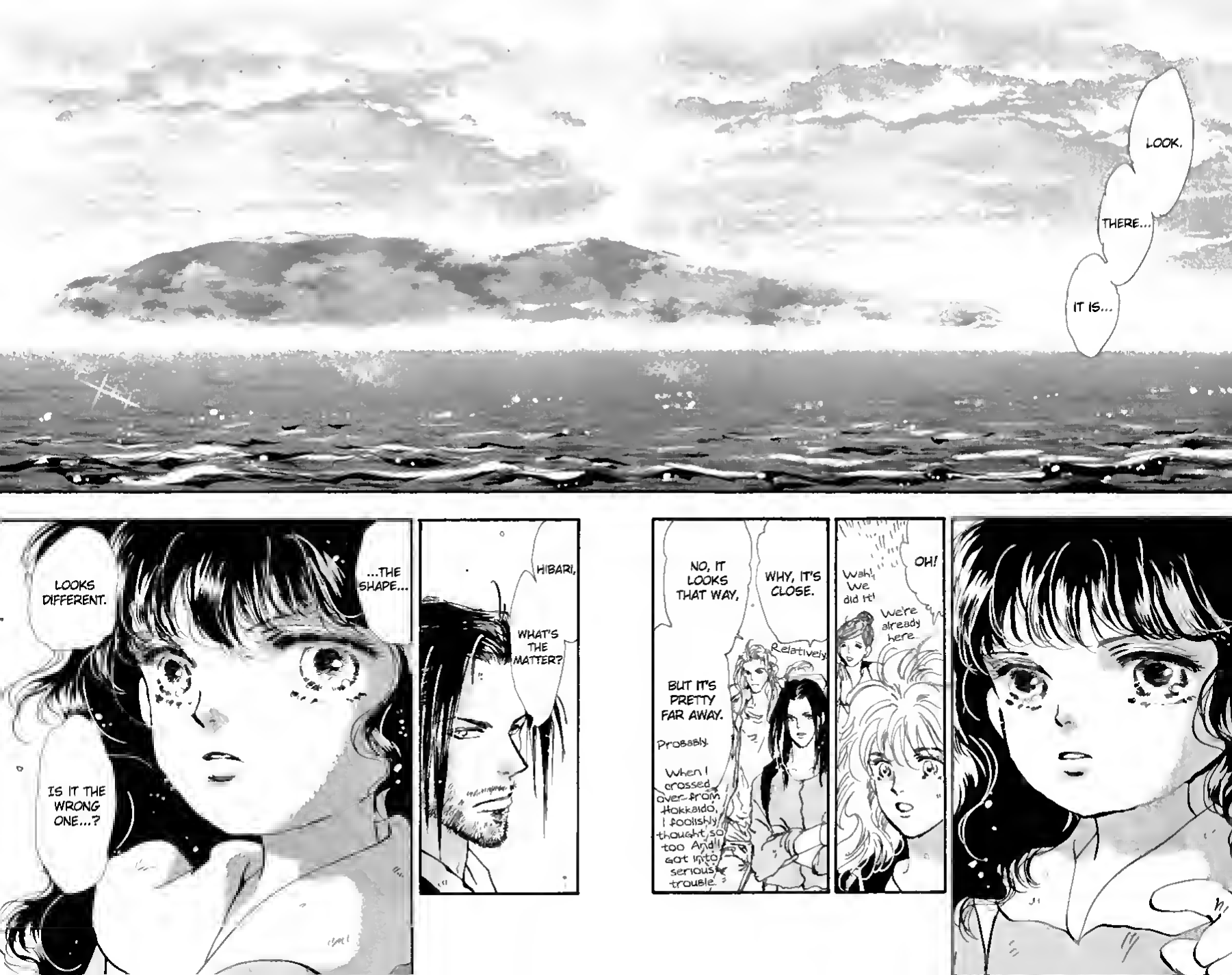
I'm tired from walking
SO, WE'LL FIND IT SOONER OR LATER, RIGHT?
IT MAY ALREADY HAVE BEEN IN SIGHT, BUT IT'S SO FOGGY.
Day after day

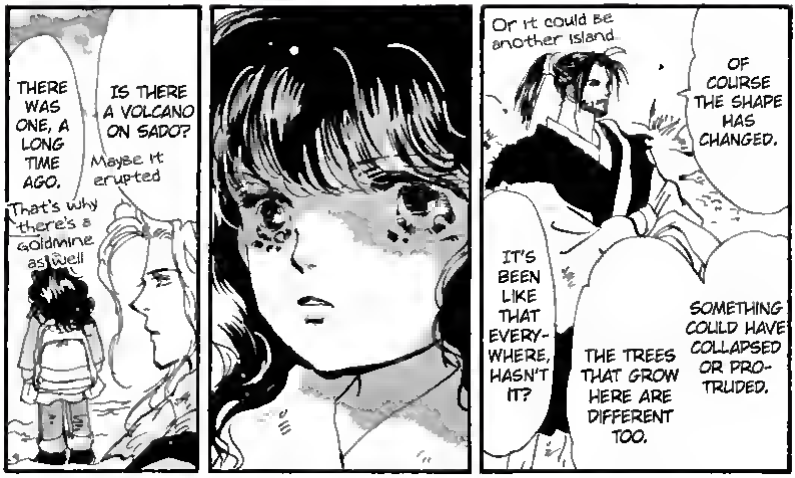
WHAT DID MY DAD REALLY MEAN BY THIS...?
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO US, YOU SHOULD COME HERE (TO SADO).

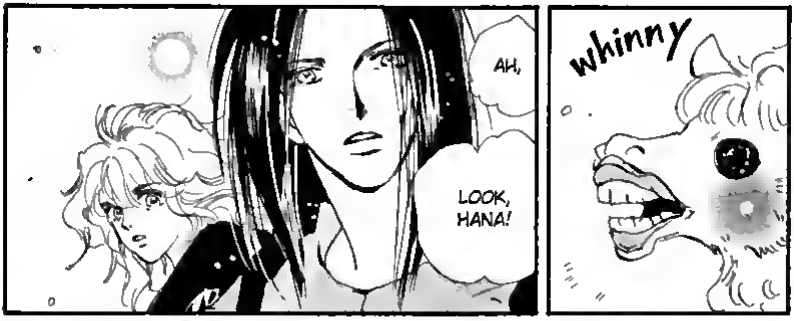
AH. ...
Finally
IT CLEARED UP.

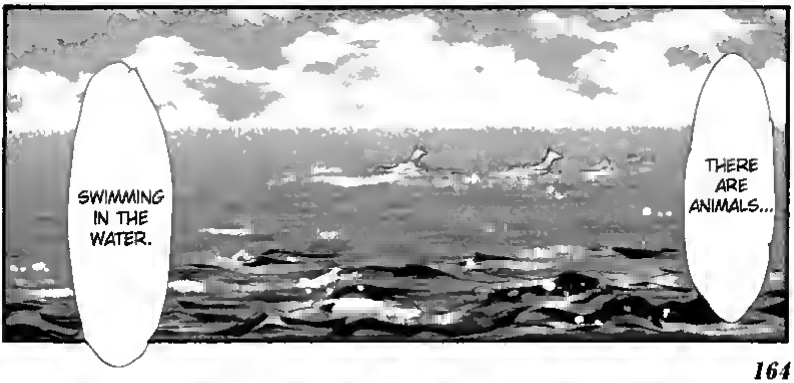
SSH


SSH
WELL, EVEN IF THERE IS SOME-THING,
I HARD-LY THINK THAT IT'LL BE LEFT INTACT.

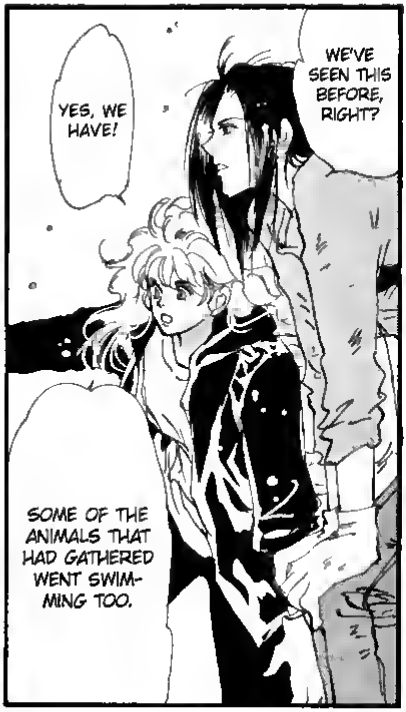

LOOK.
THERE...
IT IS...
LOOKS DIFFERENT.
...THE SHAPE...
IS IT THE WRONG ONE...?
HIBARI,
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
NO, IT LOOKS THAT WAY,
WHY, IT'S CLOSE.
Relatively
BUT IT'S PRETTY FAR AWAY.
Probably.
When I crossed over from Hokkaido, I foolishly thought so too. And I got into serious trouble.
Wah! We did it!
OH!
We're already here.


IS THERE A VOLCANO ON SADO?
Maybe it erupted
THERE WAS ONE, A LONG TIME AGO.
That's why there's a goldmine as well
OF COURSE THE SHAPE HAS CHANGED.
Or it could be another island
SOMETHING COULD HAVE COLLAPSED OR PROTRUDED.
THE TREES THAT GROW HERE ARE DIFFERENT TOO.
IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT EVERYWHERE, HASN'T IT?


AH,
LOOK, HANA!
whinny

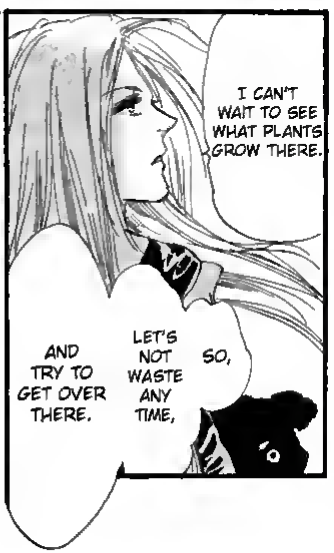

SWIMMING IN THE WATER.
THERE ARE ANIMALS...

ARE THEY HEADING FOR SADO?


WE'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE, RIGHT?
YES, WE HAVE!
SOME OF THE ANIMALS THAT HAD GATHERED WENT SWIMMING TOO.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING THAT FOR?
THEY DID THE SAME DURING THE DRY SEASON.
WHICH PROBABLY MEANS THAT THERE'S WATER AND FOOD.

We're too many and we have the dogs and the horse too
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE WITH ONLY ONE BOAT.
WE SHOULD REINFORCE IT WITH A RAFT OF SOME SORT.
THERE'S PLENTY OF FALLEN WOOD AROUND THAT'S SLIGHTLY SINGED, SO LET'S GATHER SOME.
All right!
Let's pitch camp here.
Yeah!

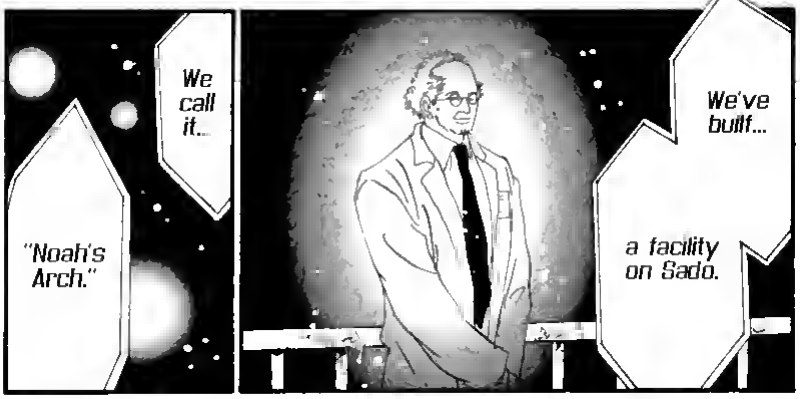

I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT PLANTS GROW THERE.
SO, LET'S NOT WASTE ANY TIME, AND TRY TO GET OVER THERE.

I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN TOKYO.
HANA-SAN, WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?
SSH
HIBARI-CHAN, ARE YOU OKAY?
It's con-cealed again
WHAT DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU SAW TODAY'S TOKYO?

I'M GOING TO SEE IT SOON.
THE COMPLETELY CHANGED SIGHT OF MY HOME-LAND.
WE'RE ALL WITH YOU.
Splash
Splash
pat
pat

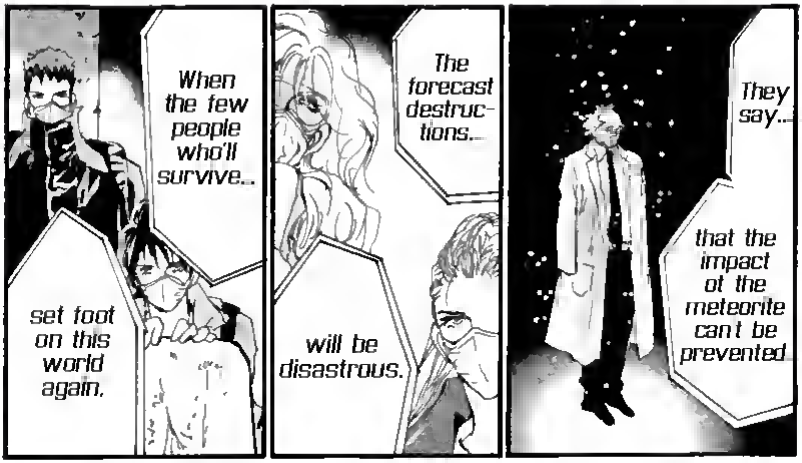
THE RED-BROWN GROUND IS TURNING GREEN QUICKLY.
IT RAINS EVERY DAY.
IT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT RAIN SOON!
Let's look for shelter!
PLAYING THE GOOD GIRL...
FEELS HYPO-CRITICAL.
THIS IS NOW...
THE USUAL VIEW OF THIS COUNTRY...
LET'S DO OUR BEST TO GET OVER THERE, HIBARI-CHAN.
TO SADO!

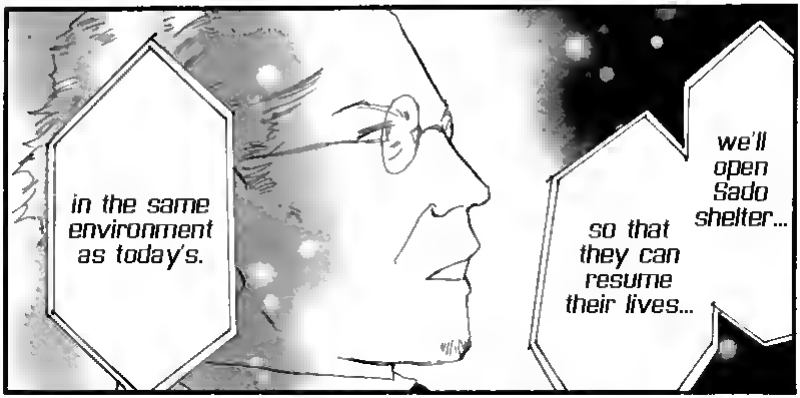
SADO ISLAND...?
Where was it again?


We call it...
"Noah's Arch."
We've built...
a facility on Sado.

They reckoned...
that a power supply would be ensured for at least a few centuries
Therefore...
Heh! I didn't know
Word was that there might be mineral oil and natural gas
AH, I'VE HEARD ABOUT THAT.
the discovery of a huge natural gas occurrence off the coast of Sado
Actually, one of the reasons was...
Why on Sado?

where organisms of fauna and flora and micro-organisms...
form a circle that simulates a natural unit.
we started to freeze and store fertilized eggs of humans,
as well as sperm, fertilized eggs and cells of all kinds of animals, including cattle,
and plant seeds.
Vested with this as our gene bank, we created a shelter on Sado...
which can also be called a miniature universe.
Currently,
we're in the process of taking in objects of art, objects of craftwork, books, and so on.
When the day comes, it'll be sealed hermetically.


When the few people who'll survive...
set foot on this world again.
The forecast destruc-tions...
will be disastrous.
They say...
that the impact of the meteorite can't be prevented


in the same environment as today's.
so that they can resume their lives...
we'll open Sado shelter...

the only glimmer of hope for the Japanese people.
I think that it will become...

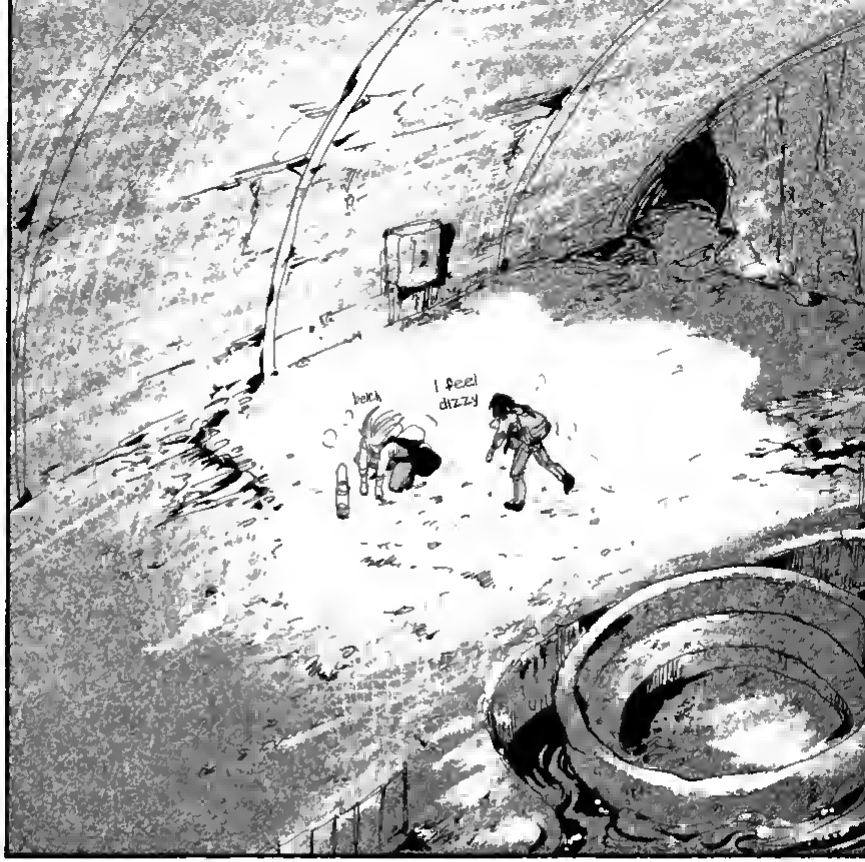
We, the staff of Kagijima,
are entrusted with the mission to open Sado.
No matter how many years it'll take.
we're determined to endure on this island...
to open Sado.
This...
was a summary of the "Open Sado Project."
Thank you for your kind attention

HE VANISHED.
clank clank
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, RYO.
...THIS MEANS ...
THOSE UNDER-GROUND TUNNELS...
IN THAT MODEL...
He's gone.
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD FROM THE MIDDLE.
What was that any-way?
Why did he show up to explain things to us?

What?
THIS ISLAND...
IS CONNECTED TO SADO, UNDER-GROUND.
LEAD TO SADO ISLAND...
SO, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE OTHERS...
WHO VANISHED, WENT TO SADO?
I WON-DER.
ANY-WAY,
Like on that ship
THAT MAN JUST NOW TOLD AN INTEREST-ING TALE.
JUDGING FROM THE CURRENT SITUATION,
THINGS DIDN'T SEEM TO HAVE GONE WELL FOR THEM.

SOH
clank
clank
clank
clank
clank

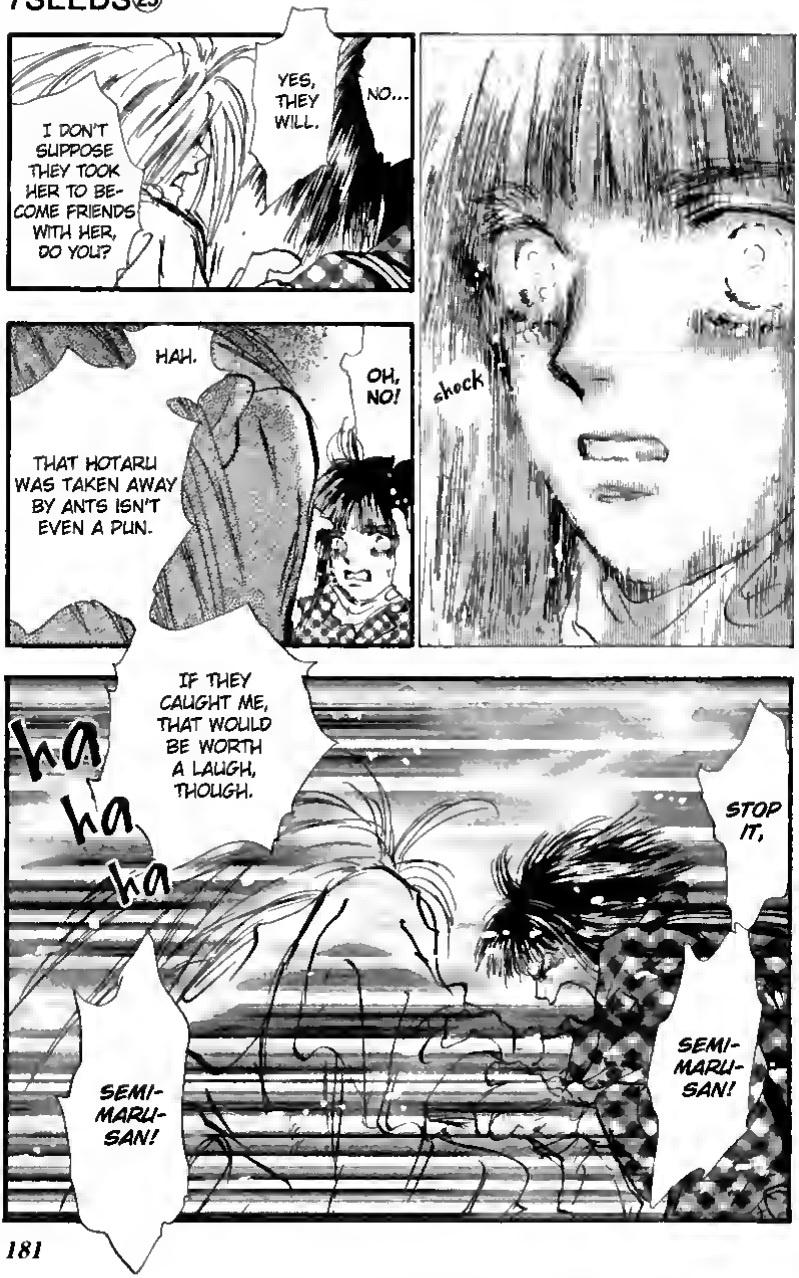
clank
clank
UH.
UH.
D—
DID IT STOP?!
OW...
I'm bruised all over
BLEH!
I FEEL SICK.
I get seasick easily
ARE YOU OKAY, NATSU?
L—
LET'S GET OFF, NATSU.
WHILE WE STILL CAN.
COME ON!
HURRY!

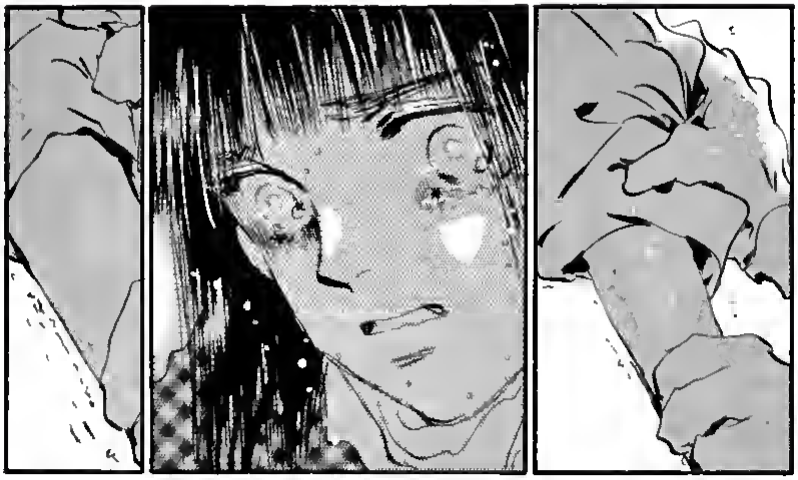

heck
I feel dizzy

WHERE ARE WE?
WHAT THE HECK?
HOW DID IT COME TO THIS?

HO...
HOTARU-CHAN.
HOTARU-CHAN WAS...
WHAT ...
WHAT WAS THAT?
SHE WAS DRAGGED OFF BY SOMETHING, RIGHT?
THOSE LOOKED LIKE ANTS.
THEY WERE TOO HUGE, WEREN'T THEY?
NOBODY SAID THAT MONSTERS LIKE THAT COULD SHOW UP.

WHAT FOR?
WHY?
NATSU!
WHY?
WHY ...?
DID THEY TAKE HER...?
WHY...
DON'T MAKE ME SAY IT!
WHAT WILL BECOME...
OF HOTARU-CHAN?!
THEY'LL USE HER AS FOOD!


I DON'T SUPPOSE THEY TOOK HER TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH HER, DO YOU?
YES, THEY WILL.
NO...
shock
HAH.
THAT HOTARU WAS TAKEN AWAY BY ANTS ISN'T EVEN A PUN.
OH, NO!
IF THEY CAUGHT ME, THAT WOULD BE WORTH A LAUGH, THOUGH.
ha ha ha
SEMI-MARU-SAN!
STOP IT,
SEMI-MARU-SAN!



SSHH
THE WATER IS STILL RUNNING.
LOOK!
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN GO BACK!
WE DON'T KNOW HOW FAR WE WERE CARRIED EITHER!
BUT...
WE...
WE HAVE TO RESCUE HER.
HOW?!

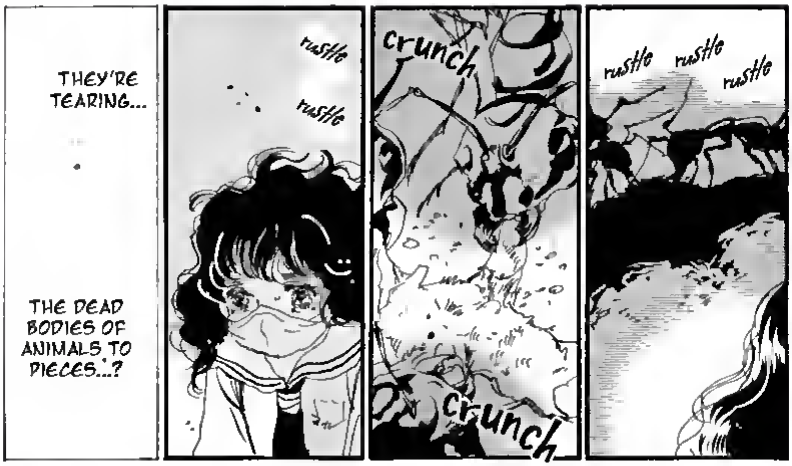
DAMN IT ALL!
I HAVE NO CLUE...
OR WHERE WE CAME FROM!
WHERE WE ARE NOW...
SFX: UWAAH!
HOTARUUU!!
あああ

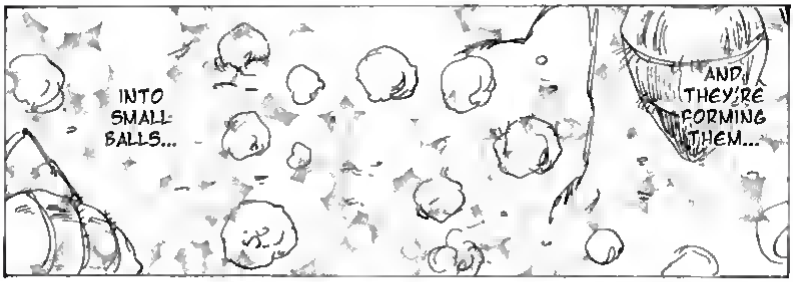
RUN AWAY.
TRY TO ESCAPE.
HOTARU-CHAN,
HOTARU-CHAN.
AAAA
drag
drag
drag
drag

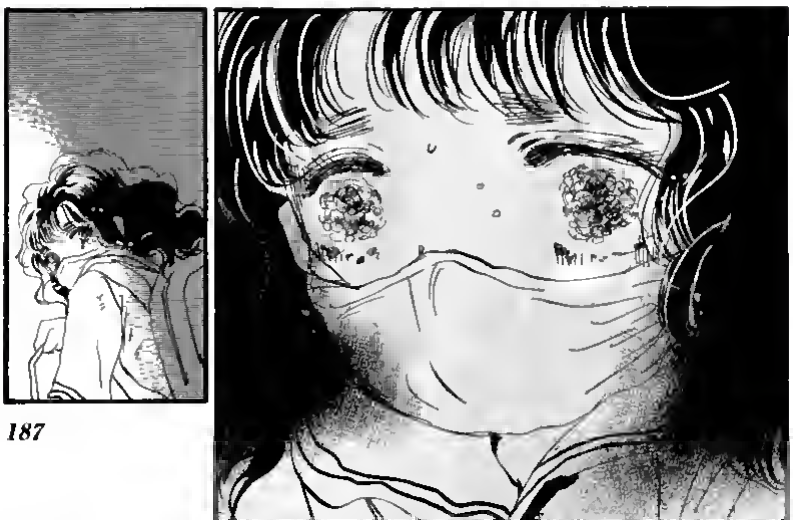
EVEN IF I'M SCARED,
I MUSTN'T CLOSE MY EYES!
I MUSTN'T...
LOSE MY LAMP
THEY'RE...
CARRYING ME SOME-WHERE.

fomp

hah
hah


THEY'RE TEARING...
THE DEAD BODIES OF ANIMALS TO PIECES...?
rustle
rustle
crunch
crunch
rustle
rustle
rustle


INTO SMALL BALLS...
AND THEY'RE FORMING THEM...



rustle
rustle
rustle
rustle

...
THE NEXT ONE.

What disk do you want to play?